

KOPTICA.
OPTICA is a SPECIFIC for RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, LUMBAR GOUT, SCIATICA, and Kindred Complaints.
KOPTICA.
This is the sort of letters we are receiving daily.—
KOPTICA. Rev. D. G. Davis writes:—
Shireburne Rectory, Chesham, Mon. Nov. 23rd, 1889.
"Will you kindly send me three bottles of your KOPTICA? I am one small bottle completely exhausted."—
KOPTICA. A labouring man who was suffering from violent Neuralgia of head and face. Yours truly,
"G. D. G. Davis."
KOPTICA. The prices are 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., and the bottles contain respectively 12, 30, and 60 drams.
KOPTICA. As a Remedy for KOPTICA and, if he has not got it in stock, he will get it for you; if not, send stamp, and 2d. extra for postage, to the Sole Proprietor,
"KOPTICA CURE,"
92, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

THIRD EDITION.
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE,
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.)
THE AMERICAN BANK FAILURES.
New York, February 1.—In connection with the recent bank failures, Mr. Claassen, the president of the Sixth National Bank, was arrested last night.

TRAGEDY IN CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 1.—Some sensation has been caused here by a tragic occurrence at Colusa, wherein Mr. Garnett, a well-known broker of this city, was shot dead by Mr. Arnold, a wealthy resident of Colusa. It is stated that Mr. Arnold had become almost disturbed by the circulation of anonymous letters reflecting upon his wife. He suspected Garnett of being the author, and shot him accordingly.

DEATH OF STAFFORD NEWMARCH.
New York, February 1.—Mr. Stafford Newmarch, the well-known artist, is dead.

THE ENGLISH CONSULATE AT BOULOGNE.

PARIS, February 1.—It is stated that the English consulate at Boulogne-sur-Mer will shortly be transferred to Calais. Sir Edward William Bonham taking over all the duties.

THE CONGO COMPANY.
(UNION TELEGRAM.)

BRUSSELS, February 1.—The Congo Company for trade and industry has raised its capital to two-and-a-half million francs.

DEATH OF AN EX-M.P.

Mr. John Gordon Minnies, who represented Warrington in the 1885 Parliament, died at Warrington on Saturday. He was connected with the cotton industry at Preston and Warrington. He defeated Sir Gilbert Greenall in the election of 1880. He was 73 years of age.

FLOWERS AT THE OPERA.
Action against Mr. Augustus Harris.

Mr. Augustus Harris was the defendant on Friday in an action tried in the Westminster County Court by his honour Judge Bayley. The plaintiff, Mr. Marle, a flower-grower, of Regent-street, sought to recover the sum of £65 4s. the damages in respect to the non-fulfilment of a contract on the part of the defendant for the supply of bouquets and button-holes for a great floral display on the opening night of the Italian Opera at Covent Garden in May last.—Mr. Henry Kisch, who appeared for the plaintiff, in stating his client's case, said in May last negotiations were opened between his client and the defendant respecting the supply of a great number of choice bouquets and button-holes. Mr. Harris was desirous of inaugurating the Italian Opera season at Covent Garden with a great floral display, and he stated his intention of presenting the occupants of the boxes and stalls with bouquets of the market value of half a guinea each. That part of the audience occupying less expensive seats were to have button-holes. Arrangements were made with the plaintiff for the supply of the flowers, and the contract was signed two days prior to the day on which they were to be supplied. The arrangement was that there were to be two special bouquets for the royal boxes, of the market value of one guinea and a half, for which the defendant was to pay half a guinea each. The occupants of the upper tier of boxes were to have bouquets of the market value of 10s. 6d., Mr. Harris to pay 7s. 6d. for them; and those in the second tier were to be of the market value of 7s. 6d., Mr. Harris paying 4s. for them. The button-holes were to be of the market value of from 1s. 6d. to 2d., Mr. Harris paying a much reduced price. The flowers were all prepared according to instructions, each bunch having tied to it with a ribbon a card bearing the words "With Augustus Harris's compliments." The defendant, however, when it was sought to deliver them, refused to take them on the ground that they were not the same as the plaintiff had agreed to supply.—After hearing evidence his honour said he believed Mr. Harris only ordered the flowers upon the representation of the plaintiff's traveller, and that the bouquets were not worth the value placed upon them. There would be a verdict for the defendant with costs.

DEATH OF MR. JUSTICE MANISTY.

Mr. Justice Manisty died on Friday at his residence, Bryanston-square. A week ago his lordship was seized with sudden illness on the bench in the Law Courts, and since then he has been in a very critical condition.

After he was moved home his condition improved slightly, but at no time were hopes of his recovery entertained.

On Thursday night he had a relapse, and sank into a state of unconsciousness, from which he never recovered, and he died at five o'clock the next afternoon. The deceased judge, Sir Henry Manisty, was born in 1808, at Edlington, in Northumberland, of which place his father was the rector. He was educated at Durham Grammar School, and in 1831 he entered on a practice as a solicitor. In this branch he continued for fourteen years, when he was called to the bar at Gray's Inn. In 1857 he took silk, and in 1876 was appointed a judge of the High Court and received a knighthood. He was in his 82nd year.

THE PELICAN CLUB AND THE SMITH-SLAVIN FIGHT.

At a meeting of the Pelican Club committee, on Thursday, the recent fight between Smith and Slavin was again under consideration. The Marquis of Queensbury made a statement, and it was resolved: "That Mr. G. A. Baird (Mr. Abingdon) be requested to resign his membership of the Pelican Club." Mr. Baird was Jem Smith's backer, and was present at the fight.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

LANARKSHIRE (Partick).—The writ for the election to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Craig-Sellar has been received at Partick. The returning officer has fixed next Thursday for the nomination, and the following Tuesday for polling.

A TRADES UNIONIST BOYCOTT.

At the Whitechapel County Court on Friday, a man named Barnett sought to recover from his late employers, Messrs. Brown and Eagle, £1, a week's wages, in lieu of notice. The plaintiff, it appears, was a member of a union, and when ordered to do a job in connection with a non-unionist workman, he refused and was discharged.

He now sought to recover his wages for the week, but the judge, without calling on the defence, dismissed the action.

ALLEGED PARRICIDE AT CREWE.

Extraordinary Case.

Richard Davies, aged 18, and George Davies, aged 16, were brought up at Crewe Police Court on Wednesday afternoon, before Mr. E. E. Belysly, charged with the wilful murder of their father, Richard Davies, on the highway, at the Hough, on the night of January 25th. The prisoners, when placed in the dock, looked very pale, careworn, and depressed. Precautions were taken to prevent them from communicating with each other.—Superintendent Leah made a statement to the effect that the deceased, Richard Davies, carried on business as a clothier in Victoria-street, Crewe, and the two prisoners assisted him in the shop. Some portion of the deceased's family resided at the shop, and others at Hough, and it was Mr. Davies's custom to drive home to Hough on Saturday nights, after closing his shop. The elder prisoner, Richard, left his father's shop at eight o'clock on January 25th to walk home to Hough. Deceased left at half past ten, together with his son George, to drive home in a pony trap. Richard arrived home about eleven o'clock, and about ten minutes afterwards the younger brother George ran into the house, and said, "My father has been stopped on the road in Crewe-lane." Both then left the house, and called upon several of the neighbours, including their brother John, who lived near, and told them the same story. John went into the lane, and found his father's body by the roadside. The old man was dead having nine shocking wounds in his head. Some of the wounds appeared to have been caused by a sharp instrument and others by a blunt one. From inquiries made he found that a small hatchet with a hammer on one side and a blade on the other—just such an instrument as might inflict the wounds on the deceased's head—was missing from the shop. This hatchet had been used for chopping firewood in the shop in Victoria-street. It was seen safe in the yard at five p.m. on the 24th, but it was missing next day. The prisoner George made a statement that they were stopped on the highway by two men, and that he ran away and his father fell out of the trap; but that statement, so far, has not been corroborated. Some blood has been found on the wearing apparel of both prisoners. Without going into further evidence, he asked for a remand.—When asked if they had any questions to ask, Richard said he arrived home before eleven o'clock on the 25th.—The magistrate remanded the prisoners.

Inquest and Verdict.

The inquest was resumed on Friday at Hough, near Crewe, into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Richard Davies.—Mary Davies, widow of the deceased, who was a tailor in business at Crewe, and living at Hough, said that her husband usually remained at Crewe from Monday to Saturday, and travelled backwards and forwards in a two-wheeled pony trap.—Hissom George, aged 16, usually accompanied him. She last saw him alive on Wednesday, Jan. 22nd. George was a steady lad, and apparently on good terms with his father. Richard, whose age was 18 years, had been employed by his father for the past five years. Both brothers were learning the business. On the night of January 24th the elder brother, Richard, reached home late and took off his overcoat immediately on arrival. Within ten minutes George ran into the house, saying, "Dick, be sharp, somebody has stopped father in Crewe-road." Richard then left the house, followed by George, and afterwards returned with the vehicle in which the deceased had been riding. Richard said he was going for the police. Later in the night the body of his husband was taken home. The deceased sometimes brought money from Crewe to Hough. Answering the jury, the witness said the deceased was on good terms with his family, excepting a daughter, who married without his consent.—John Davies, the deceased's eldest son, said he was called to the spot where his father lay dead. He and the deceased had been molested on a previous occasion near the same place, but beat off their assailants. Emily Davies, daughter of the deceased, said she had lived twelve months at her father's business house at Crewe. She lived comfortably with his children, and they had nothing to complain of. She had heard her father have words with his sons about their work, but he had not punished them.—Superintendent Leah was called, and an exciting incident followed. The coroner refused to accept any statement made by either of the prisoners, as they were not present, and he declared the whole proceedings unsatisfactory and the conduct of the chief constable illegal.—Superintendent Leah retorted that he was acting under the orders of the chief constable, and it was inconvenient to produce the prisoners in a public-house, where there was no accommodation for them.—The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some persons unknown, and expressed their dissatisfaction that the prisoners had not been brought before them.—The coroner said he fully concurred with the finding of the jury.

Reported Confession of the Crime.

A Crewe correspondent telegraphs that the two sons have confessed to having committed the crime. The excitement in the town and the adjacent districts is intense. The police are said to have found the hammer with which the murder was perpetrated in a field near to the scene of the tragedy.

Painful Scene at the Grave.

There was a painful scene at the funeral of the deceased man. The unfortunate widow was too overcome by the terrible developments of the past few days to leave her room, but the mourning coaches contained the eldest son of the deceased, John Davies, and three brothers, Fred, Tom, and Arthur, whose ages range from five to eight years. The little fellows displayed much grief. On arriving at the burial place, which is attached to the little Congregational chapel at the village of Haslington, a delay took place owing to the grave not being of sufficient dimensions to receive the coffin. The gravediggers had to set to receive the coffin. The gravediggers had to set to work to widen it, and the minister and family and spectators stood by in the drizzling rain for a considerable time while the gravediggers continued at their work. Eventually the coffin was brought to the graveside, but there was still some difficulty in lowering it on account of the narrow dimensions of the trench.

DEATH OF LORD WILLIAM THYNNE.

A Windsor correspondent telegraphs that Lord William Thynne died on Thursday at the residence of his sister, the Dowager Duchess of Buccleuch. The deceased, who was in his 87th year, was the eldest surviving son of the second Marquis of Bath, and uncle of the present Marquis, and was formerly lieutenant-colonel in the Grenadier Guards. He was attended in his last illness by Dr. W. B. Holderness, of Windsor.

WEST-END SCANDALS.

The Charge against a Solicitor.

In the Queen's Bench Division on Friday, the case of the Queen v. Newton and others was mentioned to Mr. Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Hawkins. The Attorney-general and Mr. Avory were for the prosecution; and Sir Charles Russell and Mr. Gill for the defendants.—Sir Charles Russell said he had to move for a rule for a certiorari to remove any indictment that might be found during the coming session into the High Court. There were three defendants, Mr. Arthur Newton, a solicitor, Mr. Taylorson, his clerk, and Mr. Adolphus De Galli, a person who had been sometimes employed by them to make inquiries. The charge against them was that they had conspired to defeat the ends of justice. The Attorney-general appeared to show cause in the first instance, and therefore he (Sir C. Russell) asked that the rule should be made absolute. He had an affidavit of Mr. Newton, in which it was said that the charge was that of conspiring to defeat the ends of justice in a case then pending at Marlborough-street Police Court with respect to offences said to have been committed by divers persons in Cleveland-street. After eight days' hearing the defendants were committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court. It was also stated that some serious questions of law would arise at the trial, and among them this one, whether even assuming the evidence for the prosecution to be true, any offence had been committed. The defendant added that his opinion it was a material and necessary that the said indictment should be tried by a special jury, which kind of jury could not be had at the Old Bailey. The two other defendants, and also Mr. St. John Wontner, the solicitor for the defence, likewise made affidavits; and the latter said that in his opinion questions of law of some nicely would arise upon the indictment, and that it was necessary, in his opinion, that there should be a special jury. He would not press the point that important questions of law would arise, because, of course, the case could be tried before a judge of the High Court there, and he did not say that an intelligent and unbiased jury could not be had there, but still the case was of the utmost importance to the principal defendant. He was a young man, a solicitor of high position, therefore, an officer of that court, and the question involved was to him a matter of almost life and death. This being so, he appealed to their lordships in the exercise of the discretion given them by the statute, to give him the opportunity of laying his case before a special jury.—The Attorney-general, in showing cause, said that there was no w.t.h. at all for these defendants should have other than a fair trial; yet he submitted that no circumstances had been cited to their lordships which would justify them in directing that the trial should proceed in any other than the usual course. It could be tried at the Old Bailey before a judge of the High Court, and before a jury which would include both special and common jurors.—Mr. Baron Pollock thought it desirable to say as little as possible as to the facts of the case, which would have to be dealt with by a jury. The statute stated four grounds upon which an application of this kind could be granted, but the application was based upon only one of them, that it was desirable that there should be a special jury. The case was, no doubt, a very peculiar and a new one, and the law and the facts had not to be applied to the conduct of ignorant persons, but to persons who were acquainted with the law; and one of them was an officer of the court. He, therefore, thought that the certiorari to remove the trial into the High Court should be granted.

DROWNED AT A COLLIERY.

At the Albion Colliery, Pontypridd, on Friday, a number of workmen were engaged some distance below the coal seam in sinking to a lower vein, when a huge volume of water rushed from the side of the pit above them. Most of the men escaped the catastrophe by climbing up the rocky side of the pit shaft, but two were carried to the bottom and drowned.

SHOCKING FATALITY NEAR LONDON BRIDGE.

A man named Lee met with a shocking death on Friday on the ship *Mazeppa*, which was being unloaded at Fresh Wharf, near London Bridge. He was assisting in the unloading, and while waiting for a box of oranges he was struck on the back by a crane and knocked into the hold. He fell a distance of twenty feet, and alighting on his head, was instantly killed.

A VICTIM OF CUDDLING.

At the Marylebone Police Court on Friday, Louis Regan, 35, and Jessie Brown, 22, both living in Lancing-street, St. Pancras, were charged with stealing a gold watch, worth £22, the property of William Murray Case, a mining engineer, staying at Torrington-square, W.C.—According to the prosecutor, who spoke with a strong American accent, he went out to a friend of his on Thursday night to ask him to correct a MS., which was going to the press. He left the document with him and walked into Euston-square to smoke a cigar. There he met an old woman 65 years of age, and he took an interest in her, because a woman of her age should not be upon the London streets. While talking with her three women, two of whom were the prisoners, went up to him, and they all began cuddling him. He pushed them away, and went on talking to the old woman, and the prisoners still kept fussing about him.—Mr. Cooke (the magistrate): We are told you sober?—The Prosecutor: I think I was. I had two drops of whisky, so you may judge. I was as sober as a man generally is—(laughter)—as sober as I am now. Continuing, the prosecutor said that two minutes before he had met a policeman, who obliged him with a light for his cigar, and he then looked at his watch for the time. It was worth £22. Directly he missed his watch the two prisoners said they had not got it, and the policeman took them into custody. Meanwhile, the third woman (not the old woman) had made off. He had given the old woman a shilling, but had not given any money to the prisoners. About two hours previously he had met the prisoner Brown, and she had cuddled him, and he pushed her off, and it seemed that she had afterwards waited for him.—According to the evidence of Police-constable 234 S, he saw that the prosecutor had his watch when he asked for a light. 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STRANGE TRADES AND PROFESS'ONS.

BY STANLEY CATCHPOL.

III.—BRIEF SELLERS.

At the first glance at the above heading one would imagine that it refers to the bundles of papers one sees being carried under the arms of a number of wigs, either entering or making their exit from the Royal Courts of Justice. Nothing of the kind. Our briefs are as far away from solicitors' documents as a diamond is from a grain of sand; not but that the briefs which have come under our notice are sometimes of as great a value. Many a barrister would like to earn ten or twenty pounds with as little mental labour as we have known these small pieces of cardboard to realise. When one pledges anything, a small card is pinned on the article, a counterpart, usually denominating a "duplicate," being kindly presented to the pawnier. But among the fraternity with whom we have made acquaintance a much less known word is used; the common vernacular is entirely avoided, and the synonym "brief" substituted.

The first member of the brotherhood of brief sellers who fell under our observation possessed a stock-in-trade of over three hundred—three hundred in pawntickets—representing a sum of one thousand pounds. Considering that a pawnbroker lends about a fourth—at the most a third—the original cost, one might well be taken aback at such a sum. And what do these briefs represent? Jewellery of every imaginable description; plate, from the tall Queen Anne candlestick to the present beaded prong and spoon; dressing-cases, oil paintings, and every article of virtue or bric-a-brac to be found in the homes of the wealthy. But the duplicates, how came they into the hands of the brief sellers? That is the secret which we intend to divulge, and how these tickets are disposed of, sometimes at an enormous profit, never at a loss.

London, beyond dispute, is the market of the whole civilised world; it contains everything, and everybody comes to sell or buy, and never a public or private sale occurs but one discovers a complete host of men representing nearly every nationality in Europe. A number of these men, though seedy in appearance, have pockets well stuffed with the useful, and will drop down a tenner or a hundred here the echo from the auctioneer's hammer has died away. Goods so bought will go under a thorough process of renovation; cracks can be hidden in porcelain, or a potter's name burnt in. Nothing in the ceramic art is unknown to the renovator, and the finest connoisseur is often deceived. So it is with paintings and antique silver. These things find their way to the pawnbroker.

A carriage-and-pair with coachman and footman in irreproachable livery, stop at an establishment. An old gentleman will descend and enter the private office. After a few minutes he reappears, and the servant carries a huge packet inside the money-lending house, and deposits it upon a table between the old gentleman and the party representing the firm. A bargain is struck, money changes hands; another pawnbroker is visited, another bargain is struck. If sufficient money is not advanced at one shop, the old gentleman will drive from place to place until the sum required is obtained. Twenty, thirty, and even as many as forty pawnbrokers have been visited in a single day, and often over a thousand pounds been received.

The duplicate presented with each transaction then comes into another party's possession.

The brief seller usually gives from threepence to a shilling in the pound for them, according to the kind of articles. This individual has various ways of disposing of them. He and his confederate, always a member of the fair sex, hire rooms in a thoroughly respectable neighbourhood, where they commence a regular course of advertising, mostly in provincial papers, but we have seen them even in London dailies. This is a copy of one advertisement:

A LADY AND GENTLEMAN, advanced in years, through misfortune have been compelled to raise money upon some extremely rare PIECES OF PLATE. The duplicate will be disposed of at a terrible sacrifice.

Then follows the address. Another of these advertisements ran as follows:

TO THE BENEVOLENT.—An elderly GENTLEMAN

wishes to BORROW the sum of TWENTY POUNDS

for a few weeks, to ward off complete ruin. Five pounds

will be paid as bonus for the kindly act, and very valuable

property will be deposited with lender, as security

for their custody as a guarantee of good faith?

We could fill a newspaper with different worded advertisements of this kind, but space is limited.

The eye of the unwary is caught, letters pass,

then a visit, and twenty, or thirty, pounds changes pockets, the security offered and accepted being the duplicates of the articles pledged.

The brief sellers while in their furnished apartments find out what is deficient or worn out in the house. The landlady, too often a widow, depending upon her lodgers for support, is taken into the confidence of her first floor people, who state in an unpretentious way that a short time ago they possessed a large house well furnished, but through a heavy loss were compelled to pledge the major part, trusting one day they would be able to redeem it. Misfortune following misfortune, they were now afraid it would be utterly lost. Would Mrs. Landlady purchase a duplicate for a carpet, a sideboard, overmantle, piano, or beautiful table linen? It mattered little what the brief sellers have on hand, they take care to show only those which represented things mostly needed in the house. And so this worthy pair would eat, drink, and lodge for a month, pocket twenty or more pounds, and be off to another part of this enormous London in search of more guils, and, at last, are found.

We have dealt with one kind of brief seller only, there is another sort not quite so well to do in the world. These are mostly artisans, but it is rather a puzzle to tell to what nation they belong. French, Italian, Spanish, German, all four languages will be spoken to any one who saunters about the Leicester-square quarter, in particular if he looks but soft, as no doubt we did when we were suddenly addressed by a gentleman, who took off his hat and making profuse bows, in the bluntest of tones asked if we were honoured with an acquaintance with the French tongue. Perhaps it was presumption on our part, nevertheless we modestly answered in the affirmative. Then ensued the following dialogue. "Ah, sir, how pleased at last I am to find a gentleman who can speak my language. Your accent is perfect, quite Parisian."

We are not vain; therefore are aware our accent is something awful. The compliment served a good turn nevertheless—it put the soft-looking person at once on the alert. An inclination of the head was all we ventured upon by way of reply.

"You must have lived a long time in Paris and without doubt know every quarter?" Ah! sir, since I possessed a large house in the Boulevard Champs Elysées, but since the terrible Republic! I see you love your Queen, that was my weakness, I loved to distract the Empire. Alas! sir, it was my ruin. No sooner had the wicked Republicans come to power than they stripped us of all our property, and now here am I, in a strange, but a happy and friendly country."

He had already put him down as an arrant scoundrel, and held our tongue.

"You see, sir," continued he, "one can so easily recognise a gentleman; it is not necessary to look twice."

He was watching every movement of the muscles of our faces. We did not flinch, and simply answered,

"Just so, my friend."

"Your tone is so friendly—we had not spoken six words—that I will beg the favour of intro-

ducing to your notice what a poor fellow-countryman has requested of me. He, like myself, is poor—very poor—and I am too poor to help him with anything in the shape of money, so I have dared to risk your everlasting displeasure. Ah! you smile." We were not aware of it. "It gives me infinite pleasure to meet a true English gentleman."

The above had flowed as glibly from his tongue as if it was one sentence. From the time of beginning he held a pocket-book in one hand, not forgetting to expose an elaborately chased monogram in silver. For a moment he paused, as if for want of breath; then, with a very low bow and in the most persuasive of tones, resumed, "Because I feel sure he would not refuse to assist my poor dear friend. Everything which he possessed has been pledged, and nothing is left save these, displaying a few duplicates, "which he would willingly dispose of for a few pounds."

After carefully examining them we shook our head, answering as softly as we looked:

"Too much, my friend."

"Give me two pounds ten."

"Too much, with a shake of the head."

"Two pounds, for my dear friend's sake."

Another shake on the negative side.

"Thirty shillings?"

"No."

"Well, sir, say one pound?"

Another negative shake.

"Ten shillings? Here, take them for five."

"No, thank you." We walked on, but caught the words, "Sacré cochon," hurled after us with bitter emphasis.

The gentleman whom we had just left was a brief seller.

Ever in a quiet sort of way on the lookout for things fresh and new, accident once more brought one of these individuals under our notice. We had popped a few miles down the line to visit a very old friend who kept a small boarding school for young gentlemen, and while over a glass of sherry and biscuit in my host's private room a servant rattled at the door, and, as is usually the case when a bond of good feeling exists between master and maid, entered without waiting for the words "Come in," "Master," said she, "there's that young foreign gentleman come again who answered your advertisement as a teacher of languages."

"Well, I'm surprised, I told him distinctly that his qualifications were hardly suitable. Hump! Show him in; I'll see what he wants," replied the master with a look of annoyance. In a few seconds a tall, flaxen-haired young gentleman, with an incipient yellow moustache, high cheek bones, greyish blue eyes shaded by a pair of spectacles, made his appearance. If the master's features were clouded by a look of disapprobation at the interruption, the intruder's were a look of positive detection as they lighted upon ourselves.

He had hoped to find the master alone, and, as good, simple, kind-hearted man as he was, he would have been fleeced for ten pounds as easily as a cat can lap a saucer of milk.

"Sir," addressing the Rev. L.—"I am sorry to intrude, but I was happy in the belief that I should see you alone." He spoke in his mother tongue, German.

"You have no need to fear this gentleman," alluding to ourselves. "He was a pupil of mine and somehow does not forget to call now and then upon me."

The Teuton hesitated only for a moment, then, buckling up his courage, no doubt thinking "never venture, never win," answered, "It grieves me that you cannot give me the vacancy in your school. I would have done my best to obtain the confidence of my pupils and yourself. Failing this appointment I am sorry to confess I must shortly be reduced to almost absolute poverty. To enable me to keep up a respectable appearance until I succeed in securing some kind of employment, I have taken what I am afraid you will hardly ever forgive, the great liberty of calling to beg of you the favour to grant me the loan of ten pounds. I have brought these with me, as a bond, and will gladly deposit them in your keeping" (showing a handful of "brieftes"). "They represent over one hundred pounds worth of sacred heirlooms; and, believe me sir," laying his hand upon his breast coat pocket, "I would sooner die than lose them."

"Have you no relations in Germany to whom you could apply for assistance?" replied the master.

"None, sir. Those which I possess are scattered half over the world, who, similar to myself, have been expropriated because they will not acquiesce in the compulsory military service." The Rev. L. took the duplicates, glanced through them, and saw that there were several jewelled orders, miniatures, paintings on ivory, a silver flute, a Stradivarius violin, an antique gem ring, and many other relics. "The master was touched, his bump of benevolence rose as his hand sank into his pocket. The head of the young Teuton drooped, his lips quivered with gratitude mingled with shame. But it was not the gratitude of an honest heart, feeling that assistance was about to be rendered to a person who had tried for honest labour and had not succeeded in reaching it. The shame which rested there, was it the shame of a noble heart to succumb, to borrow money from articles that once had been worn by his dead father or mother? No."

"A scoundrel was already formed to mutter

"Anchors, fingers were twitching to handle the pieces of gold which, perhaps, would shortly be transferred from one pocket to another. The master looked up with a pitying smile, and almost a tear in his eye, as he answered:

"I have not so much by me, but what I have I will lend you, for I am exceedingly sorry to see a young fellow of good family reduced to such straits."

"How can I thank you, sir?"

"Thank me when you return the loan."

"You will take care of these tickets for me?"

"Yes. I think I will take care of them, if only, as you say, as a bond of confidence."

The money was in the master's hand and held towards the other; they were three steps apart, we only one; that one, we took, and in doing so, trod upon the master's favourite corn. The sovereigns fell on the floor; the old gentleman stooped with pain, sinking back in his chair. We stopped down and picked up the money, placing it upon the mantelpiece, rang the bell, and in our softest tones desired the old maid servant to show the teacher of foreign languages out.

The "brief seller" gathered up his "brieftes" and departed, darting at us a spiteful look. We rarely saw a lip move to shape the word "Schweinheit."

Some time after we met this honest Teuton in the company of some of his confederates.

SAD FATALITY AT BRISTOL.

Two Children Killed.

On Thursday evening a shocking calamity occurred at Bristol at one of the huge mounds where the ashes of the city are deposited. The heap is about twenty feet high, and men had been excavating the sides for the purpose of screening the ashes. They then left the top of the heap overhanging a spot where four children at play lit a bonfire. The children were Richard Smith, aged 15, his brother, John James Smith, aged 14, George Stephen, 16, and George Wilson, 16. While they were seated round the fire the overhanging mound fell upon them, dashing them to their bony and brittle bones, and burying all except Richard Smith beneath about four tons of ashes. Richard Smith was only partially burned and struggled out and gave the alarm, and a number of persons rushed to the spot with shovels and dug away the ashes, and found Wilson lying with his face on the ground, his long fingers of whose eyes could not fail to attract attention. "Ah, sure an' yer mother must ha' washt yer eyes with her own blessed fastin' spit every mornin' iv yer life, an' that's what has cur'd yer lashes, me darlin'."

The "brief seller" gathered up his "brieftes" and departed, darting at us a spiteful look. We rarely saw a lip move to shape the word "Schweinheit."

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JACK ALLROUND.

My correspondent, "F. C. D.", desires to make a neural cough candy. Let her take a sufficient quantity of either horehound or coltsfoot, and make a strong decoction from it by pouring boiling water over the herb, let it stand for two or three minutes, then boil it up for a minute or two, and strain the liquor to one pint, to which add two pounds either lump or brown sugar, set it on a clear fire to boil, and boil it until it hangs in fine threads to the spoon, or if you dip your finger in cold water, take a little of the sugar out of the spoon, press the finger and thumb together, open the mouth quickly, and if the sugar forms fine threads that snap, it is then boiled enough for candy. Remove it from the fire, and with the spoon rub it against the side of the pan till it grains or turns white, then pour it into well oiled or buttered tins.

till clear; take them out and drain again on a sieve, and make a fresh syrup, this time putting one pound and a quarter of lump sugar to one pint of water. This thick syrup must be enough just to cover the lemon rinds; boil them in it over a slow fire till the syrup begins to candy, then take out the lemons and let them drain, and dry them in a cool oven or some warm place. They should be finally stored in a cool, but quite dry, place. The fresher the lemons the better the peel will be; unsound and dried-up peels are of no use at all. I have never tried orange peel in this way.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Not even "Whitaker's Almanack" contains so large an amount of varied information on topics of the day as "Hazzard's Annual." The issue for the present year is even more extensive than its predecessors, a number of new articles being added, bringing up the total to more than 3,500.

The editor, Mr. Price, deserves all possible praise for the skill with which he has so condensed his enormous stock of materials as to give just those facts, and no more, which are required for reference purposes.

No politician, literary man, or social aspirant should omit the volume from his bookshelves.

The subject taken by Mr. T. E. Keble for the current instalment of the "Statesmen Series" is "The Life of the Earl of Derby" (Allen and Co.). It is a thoughtful and discriminating memoir of the Rupert of debauch, and gives a summary of the criminal law in that connection.

To all such questers, therefore, we recommend "The Colonial Year Book," just issued by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington.

Edited by Mr. Trendell, and with an excellent historical introduction by Professor Seely, this

handsome and bulky volume contains everything

that the intending colonist can fairly expect to

learn beforehand. Its value is enhanced by a

large number of beautifully printed maps.

Taking it altogether, it is certainly the best guide

to colonial life yet published.

"Janet Horneby," by Percy Fendall (Gardner and Co.), is one of those shilling novelettes which seem to show that the proverbs "fools and their money are soon parted" is as true as ever. That thought does not strike one in the least when seeing a charge of half-a-crown made for the first number of "British War Medals," by Thomas Carter. It contains admirably executed fac-similes of some of the earlier medals, together with their ribbons and bars, the accompanying letterpress describing the victories for which they were given. If the series fulfills its present promise, it will be a most valuable addition to illustrated literature.

ALLEGED THEFT OF FURNITURE.

At the West London Police Court on Thursday, Arthur Sugden, a carman, and Frederick Pegrum, a porter, both in the service of Messrs. John Barker, general merchants, of High-street, Kensington, were charged with being concerned in stealing a quantity of furniture.

Mr. Barker, a member of the firm, said that in consequence of information he received from the police he spoke to the prisoners separately.

Sugden admitted at once that irregularities had been going on.

He said, "Two bedsteads and three chairs were taken. I had one bedstead to prevent me from telling."

"Mr. Curtis Bennett: Did he say where it was?"

"The Witness: Yes, he said it was at his house. It was a chair bedstead."

Pegrum said he had three Windsor chairs.

"In cross-examination by Mr. Farman, who defended Mr. Barker said Sugden had been in his employ a year and eight months, and during that time his conduct had been good.

Pegrum had been in his employ about two months.

Sergeant Rudge said that in consequence of the movements of the prisoners during the past fortn

perched himself at the other, looking even redder than usual and puffing out his chest and frowning as was his custom upon critical occasions.

"Do light a cigarette?" said Mrs. Scully.

"But the smell?"

"I like it."

The major extracted one from his flat silver case.

His companion rolled a silk and lit it at the snuff.

"To one who is as lonely as I am," she remarked,

"it is a pleasure to feel that one has friends near

one, and to see them even in trifles."

"Lonely!" said the major, shuffling along the sofa. "I might talk with anyone on that point.

If I were to turn me loose to-morrow there's not a human being would care a tittle about

the matter unless it were old Von Baumer."

"Oh, don't talk so," cried Mrs. Scully, with a smile.

"It's a fact. I've kicked against me fate at times, though. I've had fancies of late of something happier and cheerier. They have come on me as I sat over yonder at the window, and, do what I will, I have not been able to get them from my heart. Yet I know now rash I have been to treasure them, for if they fail me I shall feel me loneliness as I never did before."

The major paused and cleared his throat huskily, while the widow remained silent, with her head bent and her eyes intent upon the pattern of the carpet.

"These hopes are," said the major in a low voice, leaning forward and taking his companion's little ring-covered hand in his thick, pudgy fingers, "that ye will have pity upon me, that ye will—"

"Ach, my very good friend!" cried Von Baumer heartily, suddenly protruding his hairy head into the room and smiling benignantly.

"Go to the devil!" roared the major, springing furiously to his feet, while the German's head disappeared like a Jack-in-the-box. "Forgive the warmth of my language," the veteran continued, apologetically, "but my feelings overcame me.

Will ye be mine, Lavinia? I am a plain old soldier, and have little to offer ye save a faithful heart, and that is yours, and always will be. Will ye make the remainder of me life happy by becoming me wife?" He endeavoured to pass his arm round her waist, but she sprang up from the sofa and stood upon the rug, facing him with an amused and somewhat triumphant smile upon her buxom features.

"Look here, major," she said, "I'm a plain-spoken woman, as my poor Tom that's dead was a plain-spoken man. Out with it straight, now—have you come after me, or have you come after my money?"

The major was so astonished at this point blank question, that for a moment he sat speechless upon the sofa. Being a man of ready resource, however, and one who was accustomed to sudden emergencies, he soon recovered himself.

"Yourself, of course," cried he. "If ye hadn't a stiver I would do the same."

"Take care! I take care!" said the lady, with a warning finger uplifted. "You heard of the breaking of the Agra Bank?"

"What of that?"

"Every penny that I had in the world was in it."

This was facer number two for the campaigner. He recovered himself more quickly from this one however, and inflated his chest with even more than his usual pomposity.

"Lavinia," said he, "ye have been straight with me, and bedad I'll be so with ye! When I first thought of ye I was down in the world, and, much as I admired ye, I own that your money was an inducement, as well as yourself. I was so placed that it was impossible for me to think of any woman who had not enough to kape up her own end of the game. Since that time I've done better. How I got it is neither here nor there, but I have a little nest egg in the bank and see me way to increasing it. Ye tell me your money's gone, and I tell ye I've enough for two, so say the word, achesha, and it's done."

"What! without the money?"

"Down the money!" exclaimed Major Tobias Clutterbuck, and put his arm for the second time around his companion. This time it remained there. What happened after that is neither my business nor the reader's. Couples who have left their youth behind them have their own little romance quite as much as their juniors, and it is occasionally the more heartfelt of the two.

"What a naughty boy to swear!" exclaimed the widow at last. "Now I must give you a lecture since I have the chance."

"Bless her mischievous eyes!" cried the major, with delight in every feature of his face. "Ye shall give me as many lectures as ye please."

"You must be good then, Toby, if you are to be my husband. You must not play billiards for money any more."

"No billiards! Why, pool is worth three or four pounds a week to me."

"It doesn't matter. No billiards and no cards, and no racing and no betting. Toby must be very good, and behave as a distinguished soldier should."

"What are ye after all?" the major cried. "Sure, if I am to give up me pool and whatnot, how is a distinguished soldier, and above all, a distinguished soldier's wife, going to live?"

"We'll manage, dear," she said, looking roguishly up into his face. "I told you that my money was all in the Agra Bank that broke."

"Ye did, worse luck!"

"But I didn't tell you that I had drawn it all out before it broke, Toby, dear. It was too bad to put you to such a trial, wasn't it, but really I couldn't resist the temptation? Toby shall have money enough without betting, and he shall settle down and tell his stories, and do what he likes without anything to bother him."

"Bless her heart!" cried the major fervently and the battered old Bohemian as he stooped over her and kissed her, felt a tear spring to his eyes as he knew that he had come into harbour after life's stormy tossings.

"No billiards or cards for three months, then," said the little woman firmly with her hands round his arm. "None at all, mind! I am going into Hampshire on a visit to my cousins in the country, and you shall not see me for that time, though you may write. If you can give me your word of honour when I come back here, that you've given up your naughty ways, why then —"

"What then?"

"Wait till them and you'll see," she said with a merry laugh. "No, really, I won't stay another moment. Whatever will the guests say? I must, Toby; I really must —" Away she tripped, while the major remained standing where she had left him, feeling a better man than he had done since he was a young ensign and kissed his mother for the last time at the Portsmouth jetty before the great transport carried him off to India.

Everything in the world must have an end, and Mrs. Scully's dance was no exception to the rule. The day was breaking however, before the last guests had muffed themselves up and the last hansom dashed away from the door. The major lingered behind to bid farewell, and then rejoined his German friend, who had been compelled to wait at the door for the latchkey.

"Look here, major," the latter said, when they came into their room. "it is well to tell a Brussian gentleman to go to the devil. You have much offended me. Truly I was surprised that you should have so spoken!"

"Me dear friend," the old soldier answered, shaking his hand. "I would not hurt your feelings for the world. Bedad, if I come into the room while you are proposing to a lady you are very welcome to us: the strongest German verb to me that you can lay your tongue to."

"They are all unfeeling, candidly, 'where you can't speak, too.'"

"Remember that I

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

In a few days the footgates of Parliamentary "eloquence" will be let loose, and already the clans are gathering. Those who have spent the recess on the shores of the tideless sea will be the first to arrive, while the globe trotters from east and west will claim a little longer freedom. Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., has spent some four months as a political naturalist in India and Australia, and has come back with an unrivalled collection of postal curiosities and specimens which he purports as soon as possible to let loose upon Mr. Raikes, with whom he is at deadly feud. Another traveller who has made the best use of his time is Mr. George Curzon, who has taken himself to a study of the Russo-Indian question on the spot, and has traversed the trans-Caspian region throughout its length. It is an open secret that the very able letters from Persia which have recently appeared in the *Times* are from his facile pen. Those who have seen Mr. Bradlaugh since his return say that he is looking somewhat the better for his cruise, but that he is by no means the man he was, and that it will take some months to set him up again completely. While others are returning home, Lord Hartington is ordered off, and the Liberal Unionist party will lose its leader until Easter.

Lord Hartington's illness has been the signal for active preparation on the part of the Gladstonians for an attack upon his constituency, and it is announced that one of the ex-Cabinet Ministers will sacrifice his seat to do battle for the Separatists in Rossendale, and that, save for three exceptions, the local Gladstonians may have their choice. Reading between the lines, it is evident that the three who decline to try a fall with Lord Hartington are Mr. Gladstone, Sir W. Harcourt, and Mr. John Morley, though unwise friends are trying to induce the latter to alter his determination. It is not unlikely that Mr. Childers will be selected as the Gladstonian candidate. He is not altogether a personal grudge to the Scotch Radicals, and his Edinburgh constituents would part with him without much regret, and, having a large majority, would be able to keep the seat. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre will have all his work cut out for him to hold Central Bradford, and he has no taste for Quixotic enterprise, and Mr. Campbell-Bannerman is the only other ex-Minister who is disposable, and he is already double pledged at Stirling. Whenever it comes, the Rossendale fight will be most interesting.

The rumblings of a storm have been heard in the Nationalist ranks, and very shortly we may hear of its outbreak. It is no secret that in Ireland, Michael Davitt, is deeply disgusted with the way in which the land agitation has been managed by the Parnellite leaders, and that he has a following who are equally discontented. Their complaint is that the whole of the efforts of the party for the last ten years have been in favour of the well-to-do farmers, who have benefited enormously by the repeated Land Acts, but that the movement has been utterly fruitless as regards the labourers, who have been exploited throughout, and have had to be content with a grub or two of legislation in the shape of Labourers' Cottages Acts. The Nationalist boards of guardians, composed mainly of comfortable farmers, having got all they want themselves, show little or no interest in the labourers, and the latter are ready to join the standard of revolt which Mr. Davitt appeared at one time ready to raise. For the sake of appearances the quarrel has for the time been composed, but those who know anything of Irish agitation, based as it is, mainly on self-interest, prophesy that the sense of peace will not long be preserved.

The meeting on Tuesday to condemn the Irish Land Purchase Bill, which it has not seen, was a very empty demonstration. The public, for whom great preparation of reserved seats had been made, declined to pay the necessary shillings, and the audience was composed of the usual body of sallow Radicals, who seem to pass their evenings in listening to speeches, and whose faces may be seen at every Radical gathering, no matter what quarter of London it is held in. The gas stokers sent their band, which had got tired of aimless wandering up and down the Old Kent-road, though the connection between the strike and the Irish landlords appears remote. A long list of Parliamentary speakers had been announced, but few put in an appearance, and in Mr. Saunders the dreariest possible chairman had been selected. The speeches were, of course, both hot and strong, and land nationalisation, denounced by Mr. Gladstone as robbery and folly, was the burden of them all. But as a serious discussion, representing the "opinion of London" on a pressing political question, to which both the great parties are more or less committed, it was an unmotivated fraud.

The London Radical programme will form the subject of discussion at the first sessional dinner of the Constitutional Union on February 14th. This body is in some sense the antithesis of the Eighty Club, and is composed of a large number of members, mostly barristers, who are ready at all times to aid the Conservative cause on the platform. Mr. Mowbray, M.P., will preside, and Sir Edward Clarke will be the principal guest, and will open the discussion, which is always more or less impromptu, and often both enter-taining and useful.

OLD IZAAK.

The annual dinner given to the river-keepers and others who assist in protecting the fishery of the Thames under the jurisdiction of the Thames Angling Preservation Society was held on Friday evening, the 24th ult., at the Castle Hotel, East Molesey. Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., treasurer and chairman of the society, presiding. There was a good attendance, between fifty and sixty partaking of the very excellent dinner provided by Host Mayo, whose catering, as on many similar occasions, gave the utmost satisfaction and pleasure to all. After the dinner, Mr. W. H. Brougham, the secretary, presented each of the men with a packet of tobacco from the chairman, and a cherry-wood pipe from Mr. M. H. Blamey, who, owing to a severe attack of the Russian epidemic, was unable to be present, and a packet of tea from the fund specially raised to provide the dinner. The evening was a most enjoyable one, the chairman having prevailed on several of his friends to kindly assist with some capital songs.

The series of heavy gales, with rain, which have been experienced during the past few days kept even the most ardent followers of angling away from their favourite pitches by the riverside. This is little to be wondered at, as on several occasions it has been positively dangerous to venture near to the water's edge, owing to the force of the wind. Nearly all the rivers have been thrown out of condition for angling, and there is little immediate prospect of any improvement. The only angling now worth trying is to fish all the eddies for roach, using worms for bait.

In reply to my correspondent's, "G. Sinks," query as to chance of success in fishing from Tag's Island, Hampton Court, after the heavy rainfall, I most decidedly think there is every chance of getting some good roach, bream, and perhaps a few perch, by fishing the edges close to the bank, using leger tackle and baiting with worms—either the tail end of a well-soured worm or brandling being placed on the hook. Angling in the present condition of the river requires a good deal of patience and enthusiasm, but those who can stand the weather and persevere with it, mostly get well reward for the time they have to waste in finding the fish, as those caught now are in better condition, and, as a rule, average a larger size than those caught earlier in the season.

It is a good plan, as a rule, to use a float on the leger tackle when fishing edges, with worms

as bait during high and discoloured water. Middle day is the best time to fish, as there is usually a more genial tone to both air and water for two or three hours, the sun, if even it does not show itself, making a difference to the atmosphere. This is the time when the fish are most likely to bite. Floods drive all fish to take refuge from the force of the current into the eddies and quiet corners, and when the water is both high and coloured, as it is at the present time, they prefer swims where the depth does not exceed three feet, and the thicker the water the shallower swims are most likely to be productive of sport.

The prize given by Mr. G. Stevenson for the largest roach caught in the River Waveney during the year 1889, has been awarded to Mr. C. Metcalfe, of Beccles. The specimen was a grand one, although nothing unusual in size, as these fish run very large in this river. It weighed 2lb., and was caught during the summer.

The Richmond Pictorial Society had one of their very pleasant smoking concerts at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on January 22nd, under the able and successful management of Mr. Perkins. The chair was well filled by Mr. Davison, C.C., and there was a large attendance of members and friends. Among those who assisted in the evening's entertainment special mentions must be made of Mr. Thurley Beale, who sang magnificently, and Mr. Robert Rae, whose comicities fairly raised a storm of applause.

PIPER PAN.

The influenza has been the cause of trouble to many concert-givers, artists having fallen its victims so suddenly that deputies could not always be found. The promoters of the Burns commemoration concert at the Albert Hall on Saturday last were deprived of three of their principal vocalists, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Dalgety Henderson, and Signor Folli. Deputies for the most part unknown to the public, were found, but the concert was a failure, although great pains had been taken to provide an attractive bill of fare.

Madame Haas, who had been engaged as pianist at the last Saturday Popular Concert, was so suddenly attacked by influenza that Mr. Chappell had great difficulty in finding a substitute, and it was by a lucky chance that he was able to obtain the aid of Miss Janotta, who, I scarcely need say, holds a higher rank than Madame Haas amongst modern pianists. At the Burns birthday concert in St. James's Hall all the artists who had been announced fulfilled their engagements.

Let me suggest to Mr. Gladstone and his amiable allies, Mr. Healy and Dr. Tanner, that they have neglected to notice one of the most conspicuous "wrongs of Ould Oireland." Her Saxon oppressors patronise "Burns' Birthday Concerts," but pay no such compliment to the birthday of Thomas Moore, the national poet, par excellence, of "Ould Oireland."

Thomas Moore's "national melodies" are, in some instances, so nearly seditions that he might have been prosecuted but for his close acquaintance with the Prince Regent. Her Saxon oppressors patronise "Burns' Birthday Concerts," but pay no such compliment to the birthday of Thomas Moore, the national poet, par excellence, of "Ould Oireland."

The royal Bengal tiger seems to be pretty lively just now. Not a mail arrives from India without bringing fresh news of his light-hearted antics. My latest file reports that one of these grand brutes coolly entered the town of Kewah in broad daylight and killed one man, besides mauling half a dozen others, before it retreated. As soon as they had got over the scare, the townsmen assembled to the number of 500 and went forth into the jungle, where they routed up Mr. Stripes and gave him his quietus. It is a most exceptional thing for a tiger, even a man-eater, to enter a considerable town, and that, too, during the day time. They generally lie in wait outside and pick up whatever odds and ends of humanity may come in their way.

On the rock of preliminary, or, at any rate, previous expenses, the money taken at the doors going, it is said, to satisfy outstanding claims to the detriment of the pantomime itself. It is a pity some arrangement could not have been made, for "Cinderella" might have proved a gold mine.

Miss Minnie Palmer, with commendable promptitude, has arranged to appear at a series of Gailey matinées, at which she will be seen as the heroine of "My Brother's Sister," a piece in which she has been very successful in the country, but in which she has not yet been seen in London. The "sister" of the title has no brother at all, but she has to pretend she has one, and to that end dresses as a youthful sailor, a character in which Miss Palmer, the country critic say, is particularly "fetching."

Mr. J. T. Grein, who negotiated the production of "The Middleman" at Amsterdam in a Dutch version, has returned from Holland, and is full of praise of the way in which the piece was produced and acted. Influenza reigns in the Dutch capital as it does here, but, in spite of it, the play is drawing the public, assisted as it is by the magnificent impersonation of Cyrus Bleekman by Herr Bouwmester, the Willard of Batavia.

GENERAL CHATTER.

It would be a right good thing were the Legislature to make the weighing of coals and bread on delivery compulsory instead of optional with the purchaser. From what has lately come to my knowledge, I feel certain that since the price of coal advanced, systematic frauds have been perpetrated on the public. It does not rest with me to say who are the culpable parties. I merely state the fact, with a view to putting householders on their guard. They would also be wise to refuse to take in coals after dark, and to always station some one to see both that the proper number of sacks are emptied and that each is full when taken out of the cart.

Photography is now taught, as an optional subject, at some of the great public schools, and I believe that there is no branch of education which the boys take to with more avidity. Nor is it long before they arrive at a very creditable degree of proficiency. A smart young Pauline lately offered to take my portrait, and most excellent was the likeness in every respect. He afterwards enlarged it to cabinet size, with equally satisfactory results. But in this instance the art was acquired at home, photography not yet being included in the curriculum of the great school at West Kensington.

What will Mr. Barnum's verdict be, I wonder, on the British public after he gets back to Yankee-land? His bold venture must have proved fairly remunerative, I should imagine; at all events, the enterprising showman cannot complain of any lack of patronage, the show having been well attended throughout. But it proves how the taste for amusement, and the means of gratifying it, are increasing in London, that this additional attraction did not sensibly affect the Covent Garden circus or Sanger's. Both, I understand, have been doing good business throughout the winter.

January, 1890, must have beaten record, I fancy, in the matter of gales. Never was there such a breezy month; no sooner did one hurricane blow itself out than another set in with equal vehemence. Let us not complain, however; these roaring winds came to us uncharged with health-giving ozone from the broad Atlantic, and swept away the germs of influenza into the North Sea. Let us hope that they will not affect the fish in those teeming waters. A cod with a cold in its head would be a piteous spectacle, while the poor thing could not even get at the oil in its own liver to quicken convalescence.

Would there be any use in suggesting to the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway directors that the third-class carriages which they employ on the Crystal Palace line are considerably behind the times? Nor are the second-class much better. One feels, when travelling in these dingy and time-worn conveyances, that the clock must have stopped fifteen or twenty years ago on the high level line. I believe that the shareholders would find it sound policy to behave more generously to those who cannot afford first-class fares. All experience shows that the custom of the masses pays better, so far as railways are concerned, than the custom of the classes.

Piccadilly Circus is to have an ornamental fountain instead of a statue of Lord Shaftesbury. It would be a pity to sacrifice one embellishment or the other, when there is ample space for both. Let the fountain play above the dome of the lavatory, and then the upper triangle might be given up to the statue. The subterranean arrangement opposite the Criterion is useful, no doubt, but its purposes are not of a nature to be obtruded on the public view.

London has reason to congratulate herself that the mighty Bismarck was unable to get his Socialist Emulsion Bill passed by the Reichstag. Had he succeeded, we should have been deluged with another horde of foreign revolutionaries, who, in return for our hospitality, would have sought to stir up commotions in London. This noxious element made itself unpleasantly conspicuous at the time of the Trafalgar-square riots, and I am informed that the disgraceful pillage of West-end shops was mainly the handiwork of foreign rowdies.

Much benefit might be conferred on the rising generation were some society to issue, at a cheap price, an unadorned memoir of the Jubilee Plunger. If truthfully written, it could not fail to give pause to the young people of both sexes who consider a "fast" life the only one worth living. That ambition has brought Mr. Benson down from high social position and great wealth, first to the bankruptcy court, and finally to the criminal court. And so it goes in nine cases out of ten; under its fell influence the moral sense becomes steadily obliterated.

Lawyers are the most dilatory of mortals; it almost requires a surgical operation to make them get forward with business. Their standing motto seems to be, "The more haste, the worse speed," and the same axiom governs the civil law courts. Perhaps this procrastination may be just as well after all. Were the operation of the law made more expeditious, there would be, for a certainty, a great increase of litigation. There is no more curious phenomenon than the craving of many people for that questionable luxury. The lawyer is, therefore, a bit of a philanthropist when he asperses the tortoise in his methods of business.

MR. WHEELER.

The Stanley Show of 1890 unquestionably beats all its predecessors, not only in the number of machines exhibited, but in superiority of quality, ingenuity of mechanism, and better value for money. Perhaps the most noticeable feature is the rapid way in which the smaller makers are catching up the older houses; there used to be a very striking difference between these classes, but the present show proves that the line of demarcation has very nearly vanished. I could name dozens of new makers whose workmanship and materials are equal in every respect to those of the great Coventry firms. The result is that the general level of excellence is raised to an appreciable extent, and England, as a cycle manufacturer, stands farther than ever in advance of the world.

There are not many novelties among the 1,500 machines on exhibition. It seems to be thought that the existing models cannot be much improved upon in design, and mechanical genius therefore seeks fresh fields and pastures new in details. It is a general aim to diminish vibration, and various are the methods by which that highly desirable object is sought. The pneumatic tire would, no doubt, effect it in some measure, but this contrivance has the demerit of extreme unsightliness. So much so, that I doubt whether it will ever come

into much request. It looks like a bilious Bologna sausage or an attenuated bolster that has been in long use in a common lodging-house.

No objection of that sort applies to the spring vibration, by which so many makers strive to overcome vibration. Here the palm for ingenuity and effectiveness must be awarded to the "Velox" safety exhibited by Cyclodion. It is a beautiful machine all over, and should take a forward position on the paths next season. Mr. Cooks, of Brentford, has an excellent non-vibration safety, with a diamond frame constructed on entirely new principles. Nor should a visit to the emporium of Messrs. Hillman, Herbert, and Cooper be omitted by those on the look out for fresh mounts. Their new model "Premier" looks like both going and lasting. That judgment may also be pronounced on the "Special Surrey" and "Special Cyclodon" safeties, emanating from the well-known factory in the Blackfriars-road.

Messrs. Rudge are no longer the only makers of quadracycles; Messrs. Paunsey and several others have entered the field against them. It would appear from this competition that a market exists for four-wheelers, and yet one never saw them about last season. Messrs. Singer have somewhat reduced their prices, I think, but there is no apparent deterioration of quality in their splendid goods. Their chief novelty is a steering lock, embodied in the construction, which keeps the machine upright when the rider has dismounted. This invention is sure to become popular, as it overcomes an admitted evil by very simple means.

Among tricycles, those that most took my fancy at the show were the exhibits of the Humble Company, Messrs. Marston, the Howe Company, and the Coventry Machinists' Company. Nor should a word of praise be wanting for the Olympia pattern shown by Messrs. Marriott and Cooper.

Messrs. Starley Brothers have gone in for lightness all round, one of their exhibits being a strong looking tricycle well under 40lb. in weight. Starley, Limited, have one of the prettiest tandems I have ever seen, but it is not handsomer than the "Hadley," exhibited by Messrs. Snelling and Begg, or the Crypto-Cycle Company's sample.

The good old ordinary is evidently on the high road to the land of the dodo, but the "Rational" seems to be coming into rather greater vogue. An excellent model of the latter, with a strong plumb brake and other improvements, is among Cyclodion's exhibits. To those who like to ride the high horse, this machine may be thoroughly recommended. Mr. Holbain's wonderful performance on the "Geared Facile" brought quite a crowd round the stall to criticise the only machine on which more than 300 miles have been done in twenty-four hours. Nor has the famous "Whippet" been without a legion of admirers, by reason of its extraordinary hill-climbing capabilities. But if I mistake not, the "Velox" spoken of above will run it close in going up to heaven.

Such are the most striking items in this grand exhibition, so far as they caught my notice. But one's mind gets dazed and one's eyes dazzled after a time, and I may have inadvertently omitted some that deserve mention. If so, I apologise on the ground of human infirmity, as least a week would be required to do the show thoroughly for exhaustive criticism. It is a matter of regret that visitors have to go all the way to Sydenham to have a look in. This is, I suppose, unavoidable on account of the vastness of the area required. But I feel sure that the distance from town largely diminishes the attendance of the general public. And that is a serious matter, since it is among the general public that makers must look for fresh customers proportionate to the increase of supply.

A STRANGE VISITOR TO BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

At Westminster Police Court on Thursday, Hendrick Lunstroo, a clean-shaven young man of Dutch nationality, attired in kid breeches, black silk stockings, and tawdry imitation of Court dress, which was partially concealed by a long ulster, was charged with being a lunatic at large at Buckingham Gate. Chief-inspector Goldsworthy attended from Buckingham Palace. The prisoner in the first place gave an address in Holland Park, where he had been in service with a gentleman, who had lately left the country. Subsequently he said he was out of a situation, and he resided at Nutford-place, Edgware-road. Found in his possession were a box of violet powder and a box of rouge. Constable Marshall 435 A, said that at half-past seven o'clock that morning prisoner was surrounded by a crowd of people at Buckingham Gate, near the entrance to the palace. He said he was a prince, that he dined with the Queen on Wednesday, and that he was going to be presented to the Princess of Wales. Witnesses took him into custody. Mr. Shell ordered his removal to the workhouse. The prisoner commenced crying as he was removed, and told the police that he had been out to a fancy dress ball at Camberwell, and that on leaving he felt strange in his head, through the over excitement.

GROSS OUTRAGE BY A ROAD CAR CONDUCTOR.
At the Westminster Police Court, Arthur George Furber, a conductor, lately in the service of the Road Car Company, living at Delaford-street, Lillie-road, S.W., was charged, on a summary, before Mr. D'Eyncourt, with assaulting Mary Greenaway, housekeeper, in Victoria-street, Westminster.—The prosecutrix deposed that on the evening of the January 21st she was a passenger in defendant's car from Stockbridge-terrace, Putney, to King's-road, Chelsea, and when she paid her fare, almost at starting, he gave her an id. short in change. She spoke to him several times before he rectified the error, he pretending that she must have paid for another passenger. He told her at length that he would have the penny out of her before he finished, and he let the car go on 500 or 600 yards beyond the place in the King's-road at which she wished to alight. As she was stepping out he got behind her and gave her a push, which rolled her into the gutter. It was pouring with rain all the time, and her dress was spoilt, and a medicine bottle in her bag broken. Both her knees were badly bruised, and one hand was so greatly injured that she had partially lost the use of two fingers ever since. The car was then driven on at a great rate. The following day she was compensated with 10s. from prisoner's employer for her dress, and they told her that he was leaving their service. —Corroboration evidence having been given, defendant asserted that he stopped when asked, and that complainant got up and smacked his face. —Ernest Broad, a carman, called as a witness, for defendant, said he was a passenger outside the car, and the complainant clung to the handrail and ran about twenty yards till the vehicle was almost at full speed, when she fell. —Another witness for defendant, named Edward Alexander, a conductor in the employment of the car company, but not at work on the day in question, deposed that although riding outside the car he heard the complainant "making a disturbance and talking loudly all along the route." —He also swore that the complainant fell through trying to follow the car in motion, and that it was stopped directly, and defendant went back to the lady's assistance, when she smacked his face. —Complainant, recalled, gave the most positive denial to the whole story of the defence and Mr. D'Eyncourt said it was difficult to conceive, if not impossible, that a woman of her weight and physique could have run after the car. He asserted that he stopped when asked, and that complainant got up and smacked his face.

—Road Car Company, 1890.—Latest Patent Light Safeties, Cippers, and Tandems, see Stand 25; also Cycle Safety, Standard, and Stanley, see Stand 26; also Safety Novelties, New and Improved, see Stand 27; also Special List post free. Riding School open daily.—"Cyclodon," £3 to £5, Blackfriars-road, London.—(Adv.)

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From *Moonshine*.)

They have given a new boxing club in New York the name of "The Gladstone." The reason why is not very clear, unless the members intend, like a good many of their class, to follow the example of their namesake in talking a great deal and doing very little.

SWEET SIMPLICITY.—Little Beggar Girl (ringing at front door): Please pity a poor orphan.—Housemaid: Where's your father and mother?—Little Beggar Girl. Out gathering pennies for a night's lodging.

A strike among the fish porters at Billingsgate. We should have thought that Finsbury would have been a suitable locality.

LATEST FROM SOUTH AFRICA.—President of Transvaal (meeting Portuguese major): Well, major, how goes it?—Bad, Mr. President! My country's given way.—Ah! major, they haven't the Grand Old Mudder to deal with, as we had, when we "bested" the Britishers out of the Transvaal.

They have discovered the bacillus of the influenza. So this Russian disease is a germ 'un after all.

MR. GOESCHEN'S BUDGET, OR GOOD FOR EVIL.—Goeschen (to Gladstone): Look here, as you haven't been doing much lately, I'll stand you a copper or so. You ought to be grateful, for you always stuck the pennies on.

(From *Punch*.)

OUR TURN NOW.—An excited paragraph in the morning papers announces that "two doctors of Vienna have succeeded in discovering the influenza bacillus after a series of experiments in the chemical and physiological laboratory of the University." This is capital. Hitherto the influenza bacillus has discovered us. Now the tables are turned, and the question is, What shall we do with our prize?

"A ANNALS OF A QUIET PARISH.—The Vicar's Wife (to country tradesman): Now, Hoskins, after so many years of our liberal patronage, it was really too bad of you to send us such a globe-cracked from top to bottom.—"Vicar (calling from the study door at end of passage): My dear, did you recollect to send for Hoskins about the globe you had the little accident with last week?

MORE GLORY.—The fall of a fragment of a chandelier has shed an additional lustre—or a portion of a lustre—on the bra's general. **QUISTE THE FIRST BRIDGE.**—The Forth Bridge. **STUDY FOR THE PELICAN CLUB.**—The "Logic and Principles of Mill."

REFRESHMENTS IN VOGUE.—"Quinine or antipyrine, my lady?" (From *Judy*.)

THE ALBERMAN.—He is dapper of figure and of goodly countenance. He banters not unduly after the flesh-pots. He hath been to Eton and Oxford. Travelled he hath in many lands—America, Australia, the continent, Egypt, and Jerusalem. His houses are decked with taste, and he speaketh many languages. He metheth great intelligence on equal terms, and maketh not an ass of himself on the magistrate's bench. He collecteth old china, and smileth the smile of appreciation at the sketches of Leech.

THINGS JUDY'D LIKE TO KNOW.—Whether all eligible maiden ladies would not like to live in Poppy Land? Whether the words "By Gin-go!" would not form an expletive suited for the use of inebriates? Whether a chess player who has married beneath him would be justified in allying to the wife of his bosom as a "Fool's mate"? Whether butchers are entitled to be admitted to the franchise on the ground that they have a steak in the country? Whether a vegetarian would have any reason to complain, supposing that his opponents were to give him "beans"? Whether one would not naturally expect the inhabitants of Fleet-street to be fast?

A RETIRING MAN.—Sullivan, the pugilist, has, it is reported, retired from the prize ring. There is no money in it, he says. It is highly appropriate, that, after so much bluster, bunkum, and braggadocio generally, the great J. S. should become a retiring, if not a modest, man.

GOOD ADVICE.—If you want to propitiate a cheese-monger, you should address him as your maister-ness.

(From *Funny Folks*.)

BUTTED UP.—Auntie Kate: Dear, dear, Tommy, if you are such a naughty boy, where do you expect to go to?—Naughty Tommy: I don't know, but mamma says she's going to heaven, and pa ain't, so there'll always be somebody to look after me.

BOARD AND LODGING.—There seems to be no money forthcoming to find a house for the unhappy collection of national portraits. They have for some time been imprisoned at Bethnal Green Museum, where nobody goes to see them. The only course left is to hire sandwich men, and let the unfortunate creatures at least be seen in the streets.

TAKING" WAY.—Strenuous efforts were made to prove that a lady who was recently charged with shoplifting was the victim of kleptomania. Well, even if that plea is inadmissible, it might fairly be urged that the articles stolen were taken in a fit of abstraction!

AN AT-10-TWO WIFE.—An American news item tells of a Missouri woman who "boasts of having been led to the altar ten times!" With so many alterations in her course of conubial bliss, she must have learned what the 10-ter passion means by this time, and no mistake.

PAINTFUL FRAUDS.—The secret of the recent omnibus accidents is out at last. Somebody who knows writes to the papers to say that old "bus" are bought for £3 15s. to £5, painted up to look like new, and then put upon the road—with disastrous results. This information, however, can be of very little real use to the average passenger, as he will scarcely care to go to the length of scraping a portion of pigment off the bus which he desires to patronise, and of refusing to ride therein if the vehicle doesn't, as to speak, come up to the scratch.

WHY, CZAR-TAINLY!—President Harrison is said to carve turkey in an accomplished manner. If he wants to make a match in this line, we fancy the Emperor of Russia will be backed to any amount against him.

LABOUR NOTES.—Strike pay: A pugilist's earnings.

OVERHEAD WIRES—DOG MUSCLES.

GOOD PLACE FOR THE IMPENITENT—DEBT-FORD.

METEOROLOGICAL PARADOX—THE USUALLY CLOSE WEATHER OF THE OPEN WINTER.

John Bull's advice to our would-be rivals in the colonisation of interior Africa—Look after your own Port-youssees.

(From *Fun*.)

NOT A PETRUCHIO.—He: Say, dearest, will you be mine?—She: Will you always let me have my own way?—He: Inev'rything.—She: And let me live with us?—He: Willingly.—She: And give up your latchkey?—He: I'll sink it in the depths of the river.—She: And leave all your clubs?—He: Every one.—She: And always come home to tea?—He: Always.—She: Ah, then, I'm afraid you'd be a bit too soft for me!

SOCIAL STATUS—DAUGHTER OF CITY MAGNATE.—My papa is an Indian merchant. What is yours?—Son of Suburban Poultier: Mine?—oh, er—a Turkey merchant. Will you have an ice?

THE PROPER STUDY OF MANKIND IS MAN.—City Dandy: Don't black the uppers, and don't brush the trousers.—Shoeblack (experienced): All right, gav' nor, not me. (Sotto voce): A penny turn! Trousers!—eight-an'-sixpenny kickies, as the sight of a brush 'ud send the nap of inter-lidation!

SAGE—WITHOUT ONIONS.—Folly—Reason out for a holiday. Jailer—The prisoner's prisoner. Talent—Admitted success. Fireman—A waterman. Eloquence—Oratorical oration. Trust—A game of chance.

LOVE.—The acquisition of everything—reason excepted.

Now a hundred miles from Holborn—

EXAMINER: Who is our Prime Minister?—Pupil: Dr. Parker—(laughter)—well, mother says he is, and she ought to know.

(From *Alley Sloper*.)

The sweetest thing in life is to see a lovely girl watching for her lover—coming to serenade her in the pale moonlight. But when this girl's got a grey worsted stocking tied round her neck, and when she's had a sniffling cold, and the tallow on the end of her nose is frozen as hard as a chunk of salt junk, and when she sneezes so hard that they think the burglars are coming in, and her nose comes down with a poker in his hand, and a bushel of curses behind his false teeth, then that sort of serenading had best be left alone, I say.

Brown: I say, Pennecker, is it true, as Mrs. P. told my wife, that you have encouraged her to go to her brother's farm and try a little shooting?—Pennecker (in a whisper): Yes, my boy, and don't say a word, I've made her a present of a double-barrelled second-hand gun that I picked up for fifteen shillings at an unredempted pledge shop, and there's never any telling what may happen, you know.

She didn't look particularly bright as she stood with her mouth open, fidgeting with her cotton gloves, and the bookseller had to inquire twice, "What for you, miss?" before she acquired sufficient presence of mind to glance at a piece of paper she had brought with her, and jerk out, "I want a 'Two Midshipmen,' by Armstrong." Yes, miss, said the bookseller, and he placed it before her. "How much?" she asked. "Two shillings," was the reply. "Oh, that's more than I thought," she exclaimed. "I haven't got so much with me. I'll take one, please."

"How do you do? What cheer, old boy?" You really can't think

How much I feel this friendly joy.

What will you have to drink?—

Hot, if you please, with lemon-peel,

Our glasses let us clink.

Our friendship, Tom, is like a meal—

This always meet and drink."

"Which will you have, sir—one penny or sixteen of a penny?" inquired a boy with baked chestnuts of a customer. "What's the difference?" asked the customer. "Ten penny is to eat, sir; 't others to warm ye hands with."

Sweet spinner reader, if you have a mind

To change your state of blessedness and marry—that is, to take a husband you're inclined—I prithee not in dismal town to tarry.

But quick convey your pretty form and face

To the ploughed fields and breezy open ground,

For, ne'er forget, the country is the place

Where the wealthiest husbandmen are found.

"He seems a determined little fellow," Mrs. Juniper remarked a district visitor. "Determined, mun!" exclaimed Mrs. Juniper. "Lord Juniper" is still a favourite, both for

forcing under glass and also in the open air in some places. Thirty years ago it was

found in every garden, but of late years it has

been gardens shown signs of wearing out. That

varieties of fruits do in time wear out, may, I suppose, be accepted as an established fact, but those of my readers who occasionally dip into old

gardening books will find that some of our best

fruit at the present time date back into the past.

Among the strawberries of recent introduction, a variety called Laxton's Noble is worthy of a

trial. Any one having a damp bit of land in a

shady part of the garden cannot do better than

plant

BLACK Currants.

They are among the most useful of the bush fruits,

and rarely fail to bear well if pruned properly.

This proper pruning consists in thinning out

some of the old branches every year, so that the

bushes may be always sufficiently full of young

bearing wood. Very little shortening should be done, as that means cutting away the finest

fruits. Raspberries also will do well in

such situations; in fact, the raspberry

is a native of the woodland regions of Britain.

I have seen it growing wild in several places, the birds scattering the seeds, which grow and bear

fruit freely. I have often wondered why the

MULBERRY IS NOT COMMON.

I mean in the shape of fine bearing trees. It

makes a beautiful lawn tree, and will grow better

than most fruit trees amid the smoke of towns.

It is true the fruit has to be waited for, as it does

not bear in a young state—in fact, unless good

soil and good pruning are used.

It is true the fruit is not always sufficiently full of young

bearing wood. Very little shortening should be done, as that means cutting away the finest

fruits. Raspberries also will do well in

such situations; in fact, the raspberry

is a native of the woodland regions of Britain.

I have seen it growing wild in several places, the birds scattering the seeds, which grow and bear

fruit freely. I have often wondered why the

WORK IN THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

Now early peas, radishes, horseradish, and plant

early long pod beans when the land works freely,

but keep off the land when the surface is wet; it is

better to wait for a fine day. All things come

to those that wait, even a good seed time. Plant

cabbage lettuces, and set out Tripoli onions in

rows, one foot apart, and six inches apart in the

rows. If large bulbs are required, give a good dressing of rich manure to the ground intended for

spring onions. Divide and transplant rhubarb.

Make the soil rich, for rhubarb is a gross feeder.

Two excellent varieties for early and late use are

Paragon and Victoria.

THE EARLY FLOWERS.

are now bursting forth in much beauty. In a walk

through a village in Cambridgeshire on January

22nd, I stopped to admire the beautiful display

of golden aconites in the shrubberies surround-

ing one of the best houses of the village. There

are often very beautiful and artistic bits of planting

in out-of-the-way country villages. People of

refined tastes often get away from the madding

crowd for the sake of the quietude and peace

such scenes possess. Wonderful clumps of snow-

drops were seen in another part of the garden,

and the slender lance-shaped leaves of the fiddleheads

were peeping through the soil, ready to emerge

over when the season becomes propitious.

THE SEASON FOR PLANTING RANUNCULUS.

is at hand—in fact, many plant in the autumn,

but if the district is a cold one late it is best to

wait till February. Thoroughly clean and

manure the bed, for the ranunculus, like all

the buttercup family, loves moisture. Plant in rows

four inches or five inches apart in drills two

inches deep, and see that the roots are planted

with the claws downward. A little sandy com-

THE THEATRES.

DEACON'S MUSIC HALL.

To the majority of those who dwell in and around Clerkenwell, and especially those engaged in the diamond and jewellery trades which flourish in this district, who appreciate the fare forthcoming at the music hall with greater gusto than that supplied by the theatre, we think the entertainments Captain H. E. Davis puts forth at this old-established hall will especially recommend itself. Music hall audiences, to a certain extent, are more to be relied upon than theatrical patrons and therefore their tastes are easier to get at. This being so, one will not be surprised to find that the songs—principally comic—tendered by Messrs. E. Jones, Mack, J. Crosswell, G. Sylvester, and J. C. Heffron, meet with the approval of the audience. A stirring absurdity, described on the programme as a domestic sketch, entitled "Is Marriage a Failure?" if somewhat faulty in construction, certainly pleases the audience, and develops no end of comical situations. It is capably presented by Messrs. E. Izen and T. Forrest, Misses E. Wood and G. Leonard, who solve the problem suggested by the title in a very satisfactory manner. Some laughable knockabout business is indulged in by the Bowy Boys; and the serio-comic verses sung by Miss Jenny Haynes are of a good class. Some clever acting and good singing is also contributed by Mr. Austin Rudd, Miss Emily Spiller, the Sisters Dashwood, and the Sisters Rose and Blanche, the two last-named executing some effective dancing. It will, no doubt, interest patrons of this hall to learn that Mr. J. Deacon has been appointed manager, and will enter on his duties on Monday next.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson, the veteran American actor, memorable among British playgoers by his famous impersonation of Rip Van Winkle, has just received £2,400 from the publishers for his own professional autobiography.—A main portion of the receipts from visitors to the performance of "The Middleman" at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday evening were considerably given by the lessees, Messrs. Willard and Lunt, in aid of the Benevolent Institution of the Pottery and Glass Trades—the craft so picturesque and sympathetically illustrated from its artistic aspect by Mr. H. A. Jones's freshly interesting play, which, by the way, has just been produced in a Dutch version with signal success at the Town Theatre, Amsterdam, as acted there by the Royal Dutch Comedy Company, who may probably be seen in London in the course of the season in a series of their national dramas.—At the Garrick they are now rehearsing, as well as a new one-act piece for which Miss Charlotte Addison is engaged, a farcical comedy, adapted by Mr. Sydney Grundy from a French source. In the east, happily including Mr. Hare, will also be seen Miss Kate Rorke and Mr. Charles Groves, but neither Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Waller, nor Mrs. Bernard Boere will play in the piece.—Mr. Leonard Boyne may be advised to reserve his emotional gifts of expression, so far as the public are concerned, for purely histrionic purposes. His clamorous passionate exclamation, heard after the act-drop fell on the first night of "Cyril's Success," "Wretch! you have spoilt the only chance I had, caused a greater thrill of excitement among the audience than any speech given from the play itself.—Mr. Tree has just accepted for production at the Haymarket a play of serious interest adapted by Mr. Sydney Grundy from a foreign source.—The idea of the ladies' farewell kettle-drum, to be given to Mr. Toole at the Metropole next Friday afternoon, may have been suggested by his own popular ditty, "I always come home to tea." Under the presidency of Miss Ellen Terry, the veteran actress, Mrs. Keeley, Hale and quick-witted as ever, albeit in her 80th year, will make a valedictory speech. Every ticket has been taken for this interesting God-speed, to an all-round favourite, who, by the way, has just engaged Miss Cora Poole, a pupil of Miss Billington, to accompany him professionally on his Australian tour.—The break down in health of Mrs. Langtry, at the very hour she was to open the St. James's on Tuesday night, might almost have been expected by those who have witnessed the ceaseless anxiety and exertion of the new London managers for weeks past. Eight years have elapsed since Mrs. Langtry enacted her in London, where she was first seen in the part at the Imperial Theatre, Westminster, in 1882. By the way, it is credibly rumoured that Mr. Gladstone Chamberlain's new play, "The Banquet," will not, after all, follow "As You Like It" at the St. James's.—Miss Amy Roselle is engaged for three months to recite at the Empire. Her best success thus far has been gained by her spirited delivery of Lord Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade."—According to the French song, "Nothing is sacred to a sapper"—or it may be added, to a cowboy. If Buffalo Bill typified that clan, the latest act of the Honourable William Cody is a proposal to the municipality of Rome to hire the Colosseum and give the Wild West Show inside its walls. True, the Flavian amphitheatre was built and appropriated to such displays, but its seizure became consecrated to Christians after the first martyrs, at the building of Domitian and Caligula, were thrown to the lions in its arena. The sentiment aroused through all Christendom by the memory of that massacre, it may be hoped, made a Campo Santo of the Colosseum.—The directors of the London Pavilion have decided to pay the shareholders a dividend equal to 10 per cent. per annum. After adding to the reserve fund a sum of £1,000, the directors of the Alhambra have decided to pay a dividend of £1 6s. 6d. on each £10 share. This is equal to a dividend of 26 per cent. per annum.—A professional afternoon performance of the pantomime will be given at the Marylebone Theatre on Tuesday next.

TERRIBLE SUFFERINGS AT SEA.

The steamer Oruba, which has just arrived at Plymouth, brought Captain John Hollo, of the ship King Robert, and of from Glasgow, with a general cargo for San Francisco, which was burnt off Cape Horn on November 9th in consequence of the spontaneous combustion of part of her cargo of coals. The crew, twenty-eight in number, were rescued by the barque Bulimble, of Liverpool. The Oruba also brought William A. Oliver, sailmaker, of the ship Arthurs, of Liverpool, Captain Hamilton, with coals from the Tyne for Valparaiso, which was burnt off the Falkland Islands on October 2nd, and abandoned by the crew in two boats. When the vessel was left she was only twenty-six miles from the islands. Captain Hamilton was in one boat, with ten men, while M'Clemens, the mate, with eleven men, occupied the second. The boats carried little food or water, as they were expected to reach Stanley in a few hours. The crews of both were, however, much exhausted from the three days' fatigue which they had previously incurred in trying to extinguish the fire, and consequently Captain Hamilton's boat occupied seven days in reaching the Falkland Islands. The men in the mate's boat fared still worse. They lost their reckoning, and after ten days' exposure were picked up over 150 miles from the islands. The weather was dry, but intensely cold, and the men suffered terribly from thirst and frostbites. The mate became mad, and had to be tied down. He and an ordinary seaman named Holsby died after they were rescued. James Moodie, the cook, died the day before. They were driven to Valparaiso, Chile, where they were picked up over 150 miles from the islands. The weather was dry, but intensely cold, and the men suffered terribly from thirst and frostbites. The mate became mad, and had to be tied down. He and an ordinary seaman named Holsby died after they were rescued. 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THE PARRELL COMMISSION REPORT.**Action of the Irish Party.**

According to the London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal*, the report of the Special Commission has been presented to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and it is probable that the first business of the session will be the consideration of a motion declaring the publication of Pigott's forgeries by the Times, and the insistence on their genuineness after they had been repudiated by Mr. Parnell, constituted a gross breach of the privileges of the House. The Irish party intend to demand the appointment of a select committee to take up the investigation into the conspiracy at the point at which it was cut short by the commission.

BURGLARIES IN SOUTH LONDON.

Several burglaries have been committed recently in the neighbourhoods of Clapham, Balham, Wandsworth, and Tooting, and notwithstanding the untiring efforts of the police to effect captures, the burglars, with one exception, have managed to get away. The majority of the burglaries have been committed on Sunday evenings when the families have been attending church, and in some cases property of considerable value has been stolen. The police are of opinion that all the burglaries have been committed by the same person or persons.

SERIOUS FOOTBALL ACCIDENT.

During the match on Saturday between Penarth and Newport, one of the Newport half-backs was knocked down and sustained a fracture of the thigh.

A HAMMERSMITH MYSTERY.

Dr. Diplock was informed on Saturday evening of the death of Edith Brackley, a girl about 8 years of age, whose dead body was that morning discovered on Brook Green. The girl left home the previous evening, when she intended to go on an errand to Shepherd's Bush. She did not return, and information was given to the police, with a description of her appearance. A person was crossing Brook Green Common when the girl was discovered dead on the grass, with her hands clenched and some dirt on her knees, as if she had either fallen or been pushed down.

THE MORAL ASPECTS OF NATIONAL DEFENCE.

Colonel Maurice, R.A., delivered a lecture on Saturday at the Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, on "The Moral Aspects of the Question of National Defence." Mr. L. Dickinson presided.—The lecturer said it was necessary for us to defend our empire and the great empires we had under our control because if they were not defended the cottages of the British artisan would suffer by scarcity of food. The moral responsibilities and aspects of national defence concerned every citizen in England. In the past the English people had not interested themselves in this subject as they ought to have done, but had left the Cabinet Ministers to deal with it. He was glad, however, that this state of things was now passing away. It was quite as serious for this country not to do its duty and neglect by carelessness the sufferings of its inhabitants as going to war. Politics were simply the questions which the people were most interested in. He dreaded the fatal danger of not thinking about the question of national defence in time of peace; he wanted us to have the same feelings in times of peace that we had in times of war—namely, of paying attention to this tremendous responsible question.

NEW CLUB AND INSTITUTE FOR SOUTH BERMONDSEY.

On Saturday afternoon, in very unfavourable weather, the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the proposed new club and institute for South Bermondsey was performed by Mrs. Carr Gomm, the lady of the manor of Rotherhithe, in the presence of a large assembly. Colonel Hamilton, M.P., had been announced to attend, but was unavoidably absent. Among those who took part in the proceedings were many prominent residents of the neighbourhood, and others, including Messrs. Lawrence Stevens (who presided), Alderman Taylor, E. R. Lumley Smith, Carr Gomm, J. Thornton, E. H. Bayley, H. Pratt (president of the Club and Institute Union), W. Beasley, E. L. Sturt, J. T. McQuie (president of the Victoria Club, Sheerness), the Rev. H. B. Chapman, W. H. Appleby, W. Copewell (chairman and secretary of the building committee), and E. F. Payne (general secretary of the club). The club is non-political, and is the outcome of a movement among the men working on the South Bermondsey estate. Hitherto they have carried on their operations upon premises in Elderton-road, South Bermondsey, but their three years' agreement having expired, Mr. Carr Gomm has granted the club a site at the junction of Suffolk-road with Rotherhithe New-road at a nominal rent. At first it is proposed to erect only a club-room capable of accommodating 250 persons, but it is contemplated to eventually extend the building so as to afford accommodation for 500. The number of members is now 250. Mrs. Carr Gomm laid the stone, under the superintendence of Mr. T. L. Aubrey, the architect, and Mr. H. L. Holloway, the builder. Several speeches were made acknowledging the value of social clubs.

NO WORK NO PAY.

Mr. Justice Kekewich, sitting in the Chancery Division on Saturday, had various motions before him with regard to business in the Liverpool and Manchester district registries. In one instance counsel was unable to proceed in the absence of his client, who had failed to furnish him with proper instructions. His lordship therupon said it frequently happened in chambers, that County Practicing business was before him, that solicitors failed to put in an appearance, and he had recently taken the opportunity of making some severe remarks on the subject. His maxim was "Good pay for good work, but no work no pay," and in future in cases where solicitors failed to attend properly to their duty, he should mark his opinion of their conduct by defaulting costs for "attendance" when they did not attend either in person or by a clerk.

Lord and Lady Randolph Churchill left Victoria last week for Monte Carlo. They will be absent from London for several weeks.

Mr. W. E. Baxter has been informed of the death of John Cox, aged 17, a boy who, lately employed on the canal barge Forecast. The lad cut his finger with a rope, and blood poisoning supervened.

A meeting of tenant farmers has been held at Cookstown, county Tyrone, in furtherance of a compulsory Land Purchase Bill. A resolution was passed calling on the Government to introduce a bill on the lines of the Ashbourne Act.

The body of Inspector James Anderson, a member of the North Shields police force, who was suddenly missed several weeks ago, has been found in the Tyne at Shields. It was, of course, much decomposed, and the cause of death cannot be ascertained.

At the Liverpool Police Court a negro named Bell, who is 5 ft. 4 in. high, was charged with the manslaughter of a widow named Finnigan, aged 50. The woman was found dead in a field, and a post mortem showed that death had been caused by outrage. The prisoner was remanded.

Robert Phillip, aged 35, shoeblock, Greville-street, Holborn, while cleaning a window in Chapel-street, slipped and fell into the area, and sustained concussion of the brain. He was removed to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road.

Anne Thompson, aged 16, a domestic servant of 25, Custom-street, Victoria Docks, Canning Town, was leaning over a stove to reach something when the draught took her clothes into the flames, and before assistance could arrive she was so badly burned as to necessitate her being placed in the Mary Ward at the London Hospital.

THE VOLUNTEERS.**1st Surrey Rifles.**

On Saturday the annual prize distribution ceremony of the 1st Surrey Rifles, of which General Sir F. W. Grenfell, K.C.B., recently became honorary colonel, was performed at the headquarters of the regiment, Flodden-road, Camberwell, by Mrs. Hamilton, wife of Brigadier-General Hamilton, the commander of the Surrey Brigade. There was a large attendance, amongst the principal visitors being General Fremantle and many other distinguished officers and ladies. The proceedings commenced with the annual statement by Colonel Villiers, the officer commanding the battalion, which contained many features of interest. But in some respects the records were not so good as in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of officers, from 23 to 25, but the enrolled strength, which in 1888 was 476, had fallen off by 26 men, to 450, and the efficient strength from 450 to 435. The best shot in the regiment was Private News, A Company; who had gained 200 points in class-shooting. Private News had won the forty-second place in the Queen's Hundred at Wimbledon at the last meeting, and had greatly distinguished himself in the international match, when he put on one of the highest scores, 91, for the Welsh team. In various matches during the year Private News made the following very high scores:—94 twice, 93 twice, and 91 three times. In the annual match for the Keighley Challenge Cup, the trophy had to be given up to the 3rd West York, who won by 22 points in an aggregate score of 703. The best shooting company was D Company, with a figure of merit of 168·38. The marksmen numbered 46.—Mrs. Hamilton subsequently distributed the prizes, among the principal being the De Keyser Challenge Cup for marksmen and first-class shots, won by Private C. Wyatt, B Company, the Pollock Challenge Cup, won by Private News; the Bread-street Ward Challenge Trophy, won by Private Messenger, D Company; the "Sturdy" Challenge Cup, won by Private G. H. Bridges, A Company; the Macdonald Lodge Cup, won by Sergeant Saxby, B Company. The "Irvine" Trophy, for volley and independent firing in squads of ten per company, was won by the A Company team with 235 points, Private News winning the silver medal for the best individual score. Among the challenge prizes were the "Ladies," the "Wire," the "Four Star," the "Miss MacDonald," the "Newington" (F Company), and the battalion cup. The battalion championship badges were won as follows:—Gold badge, Private News, with an aggregate of 700 points; silver badge, Private Messenger, with 696; and third prize (26 ds.), by Corporal Frankhead, with 660 points.—After the distribution a vote of thanks was accorded to Mrs. Hamilton, Brigadier-general Hamilton responding. After other speeches an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music and recitations was carried out, under the direction of Colour-sержant Teare, Private Pullan, and Private Wareham, the latter accompanying the songs on the piano-forte.

South Middlesex Rifles.

On Saturday the annual distribution of prizes to this battalion took place at the headquarters of the regiment at Beaufort House by Lady Abinger, wife of the brigadier-general of the West London Brigade, to which the South Middlesex belongs. The distribution took place in the interval of an enjoyable concert, to hear which there was an excellent company, and as contributors to which were Mr. Taunay Boale and many other talented artists. The annual statement made by Colonel Wyke, the commandant, showed that the numbers and efficiency of the regiment had been fairly well kept up. The marksmen numbered forty-three; the best shooting company was No. 1 (Major Bird's), the winners of the War Office Cup, and the best shot in the battalion was Lance-corporal Elliott, No. 4 Company. Lady Abinger subsequently distributed the prizes, the senior shots, led by Colour-sergeant Hobbs, being first called up, followed by the junior shots, and then the winners of first prizes in companies. After the distribution a vote of thanks was accorded to Lady Abinger, to whom General Lord Abinger responded, and the concert then proceeded.

20th Middlesex (Artists) Rifles.

On Saturday the annual regimental dinner of this corps was held in the great hall at the Criterion Restaurant, when a large company sat down, which included General Philip Smith, commanding the Home District, General Fremantle, and other distinguished officers. General Lord Wolseley being at the last moment called by royal command to Sandringham. Before the prizes were distributed, a ceremony which General P. Smith performed in the absence, from sickness, of Sir F. Leighton, P.R.A., the honorary colonel, Colonel Edis, the officer commanding the battalion, briefly described the present position of the regiment. The strength of the battalion had slightly diminished, because, as he believed, they had now attained to the position of expecting from every man that he would do his work, and of getting rid of all those who were disposed to be drones. They had lost in strength some twenty-two or twenty-three men, but instead of the sixty-three lost they had gained about ninety-nine recruits and he hoped by the end of the year they might be up to their full establishment strength of 804 men. Referring to the equipment fund organised by the Lord Mayor, he was one of those who objected to cœsarean support, and he thought the War Office, for its own sake, ought to have done what it had been left to the Lord Mayor's Fund to do. Colonel Edis expressed the thanks of the regiment to the Prince of Wales, who had honoured them by opening their new headquarters, upon which there now remained only a debt of £1,500.—After the distribution General Smith and General Fremantle addressed the company, which was entertained throughout the rest of the evening with an excellent concert, sustained by members of the Arts Musical Society, under the honorary conductorship of Captain W. H. Thomas.

Mr. Baxter held inquests at Mile End and Shadwell on the bodies of Sarah Edith Perkins, aged 2 months, the daughter of the caretaker of the Single Street Board School, and Lillian Lewis, aged 4 months, the daughter of the caretaker of the Seamen's Chapel, Katchiff. Death in each case was due to suffocation.

The dead body of a man named Daniel Grady has been found under suspicious circumstances on the roadside at Caldercruix, near Airdrie. His face was disfigured with bruises, and his legs also showed signs of foul play. A row was heard near the place about midnight, and the police have arrested two men on suspicion.

The Liverpool police have arrested Richard Turner, licensee of a police-house in Paradise-street on a charge of receiving a gold watch and other jewellery and fifty pounds of tobacco that are alleged to be the proceeds of a burglary committed on the 21st ult. Two notorious burglars and thieves have also been arrested.

"The Middleman" was produced in Dutch at Amsterdam on Saturday, and Mr. W. H. Griffiths, the acting-manager of the Shaftesbury Theatre, was present as representing Messrs. Willard and Lart.

The fifth anniversary of the Pimlico branch of the Church of England Working Men's Society, was held at Pimlico-road, S.W. Mr. R. C. Antrobus presided, and the men were addressed by Mr. E. M. Ingram, the president of the society; Mr. E. Powell, general secretary; Mr. Spalding, vice-president; Mr. Boys, the president of the branch; and Mr. A. Botton, the hon. secretary.

We learn that it is the intention of Mr. Edmund Barnes, the Conservative candidate for Hoxton, to attend at the offices of the Hoxton Conservative Association, 303, Old-street, every Tuesday evening from eight p.m. to ten p.m., in order that the electors may have an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with him and his views.

A MAN IN WOMAN'S ATTIRE.**1st Surrey Rifles.**

The Dublin police on Saturday arrested a man who, it was alleged, was escaping to England.

He is charged with having worn female dress for years, and having obtained various situations as a domestic servant in Dublin. It is alleged that on the previous night he stayed at a girl's lodgings-house.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR ON THE RESULTS OF MISSIONS.

The Very Rev. Archdeacon Farrar delivered the last of his series of addresses on missions to a large congregation at Westminster Abbey on Saturday afternoon, his special subject on this occasion being "The Results of Missions." The archdeacon said that in these addresses he had, he thought, said enough to show that however plausible the objections to missions might be, they could only sound so in the ears of worldlings and disbelievers. It was still easy to show to any man who would think that even the indirect, the secondary, the reflex blessings of missions had been incalculable and astonishing in magnitude in the case of empire, in the case of science, in the case of civilisation, and in the case of the improvement of the condition of all mankind. In the case of empire it could not but have struck them that but for these despised and derided missions the imperial sway and destinies of England would never have been what they are. The archdeacon referred to the great services missionaries had rendered in the cause of science and civilisation, and said that while missionaries were spreading the truth abroad, they were also spreading life and soul into dead hearts at home. Let them think how poor the Church at home would be without their great works.

THE LIBEL ACTION AGAINST MR. H. MARKS.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Saturday, before Mr. Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Hawkins, the case of the Queen v. Marks came on for argument. In this case a rule nisi to remove an indictment preferred by Mr. Arthur Burr, the promoter of Bellagio, against Mr. Harry Marks, the editor of the *Financial News*, for alleged libel contained in that paper, from the Old Bailey into the High Court, had been obtained, and it was now sought to have it made absolute, on the ground that it was a case which ought to be tried before a special jury and before His Majesty's judges, as the questions involved had reference to the value of a property, and the profits in connection with it, for a number of years.—Mr. R. T. Reid, Q.C., and Mr. R. S. Wright appeared for Mr. Marks; and Mr. Wedderburn, who, however, offered no objection to the rule being made absolute, for Mr. Burr.—Their lordships, having heard Mr. Reid, refused to make the rule absolute, and it was accordingly discharged.—The next case in the list was the Queen v. Miles and another. Mr. Ogilie said he appeared for the defendants in this case, the editor and proprietors of the *Surrey Mirror*, who copied verbatim from the *Financial News*, which they gave as their authority, the paragraph containing the alleged libel. They were prosecuted for libel, and were committed to the Old Bailey, and exactly the same questions arose as in the previous case, and a similar rule had been obtained. Mr. Wedderburn also appeared in this case for Mr. Burr.—Their lordships discharged the rule.

THE BOYS' ORPHANAGE, BLACKHEATH HILL.

In the absence of Lord Wolseley, who had been summoned to Sandringham by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Mr. G. Osborne Morgan, M.P., president and distributed the prizes to the inmates of the Boys' Orphanage, Montague House, Blackheath Hill, Greenwich, on Saturday afternoon. The object of the orphanage, which has been established for eleven years, is to clothe and maintain orphan boys, the children of respectable parents, and to give them a sound and practical education suitable to their condition in life, due regard being paid to their religious and moral training. There are at present forty-seven boys in the school, of whom twelve entered in the course of the year as vacancies occurred. Of the twelve who left, nine had had situations found them on the completion of their time. The reports which the committee have received as to the progress made in school work had been of a satisfactory character, and reflected great credit on the pains taken by Mr. Wilson, the head master. The receipts for the past year amounted to £1,096, and the expenditure to £1,088, leaving a balance of £23 to be carried forward. Among those present, besides the chairman, were the Rev. B. Lambert (vicar of Greenwich), the Rev. E. L. Gedje, Mr. E. M. Roe, R.N., Lady Bagcalley, Professor Miller, Mr. J. Chubb, Mr. A. Ziernier, Mr. A. Davenport, and Mr. H. Banning. The chairman, in distributing the prizes, said that those for fifty or fifty years ago boys in a similar position to those in that institution received no education at all. The youths of the present generation were exceedingly well situated as regards education. The boys in that house showed not only an acquaintance with facts, but an intelligent understanding of the teaching they received. The object of education was to make those who received it think for themselves. Youth was the seed time, and if good seed were sown there would hereafter be abundant fruit. He was delighted to see that the managers took great interest in the boys after they had left that institution. There had been seventy boys who had gone into the world from that school, and he was glad to hear that in almost every case they had turned out well. He spoke of the difficulty there was in obtaining situations as clerks, and advised the boys, if they had an aptitude for it, to learn to be skilled artisans. He declared that the man who had learned a trade thoroughly and deserved work would be certain to obtain it. He advised the boys, whatever profession or trade they chose to stick to it. Having dwelt upon the importance of securing a good character, he concluded by saying that we could not all be rich or successful in life, but every person could be an honest and useful member of society, and thereby set an example to those who followed us worthy of imitation. (Applause.)—A vote of thanks to Mr. Osborne Morgan for presiding and distributing the prizes terminated the proceedings.

The Duchess of Albany, with the infant duke, have arrived at Claremont on concluding a visit to the Queen at Osborne.

Dr. Talmage, accompanied by Mrs. Talmage, sailed from Liverpool, in the Cunard steamer Aurora, for America last week.

All the streets adjacent to Belfast Harbour have been flooded by the exceptionally high tide. A violent gale blew.

The barge Sarah Mills, of Aberdeen, has founders off Montrose, and the crew of four men have been drowned.

On Saturday afternoon an engine broke down near Monument Station, on the Underground Railway. No one, fortunately, was injured, but considerable delay was caused to some of the trains.

"The Middleman" was produced in Dutch at Amsterdam on Saturday, and Mr. W. H. Griffiths, the acting-manager of the Shaftesbury Theatre, was present as representing Messrs. Willard and Lart.

The annual meeting of No. 3 District Conservative Association in connection with the Kensington Metropolitan Association, has been postponed to the 4th February, when it will take place at the Cavendish Arms Hotel, South Lambeth, under the presidency of Mr. E. W. Cox, the chairman.

The eleventh annual dinner in connection with Messrs. Shoolbred's grocery department was held on Saturday evening at the Holborn Restaurant. Mr. L. Barwell presided, Mr. A. Christie occupied the vice-chair, and fully two hundred persons were present. Numerous toasts were proposed, and an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was submitted, among the most successful contributors being Mr. R. E. Miles, Mr. J. Lightfoot, Mr. David Hughes, Mr. M'Call Chambers, Mr. A. Carney, and Mr. H. Evelyn, with recitations by Mr. T. S. Hardman. The accompaniments were furnished by Mr. G. V. Jesse, and all the arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. Knight, treasurer, and Mr. H. Anson, hon. sec.

Dr. de Jonge's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil.—ITS USE AND EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION AND WASTING DISEASES.

It is a pure oil, very palatable, and more easily digested than the Palm Oil. It possesses medicinal properties, and render it more efficacious than other kinds of fatty Oils.

In the treatment of Diseases including Consumption, Dr. de Jonge's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is attended with great advantage; and I know of no other oil which can be used in the treatment of these great consuming plagues of the British Islands. The Iodine, Bromine, and Phosphorus, and Bismuth naturally contained with this oil, assist in giving it great benefit to many invalids who make it a hot food and medicine for health.

Dr. de Jonge's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is the best oil for all animals. Sole Conserves, Ansar, Harford, Co. 210, High Holborn, London. CAUTION.—Never be induced to purchase other Cod Liver Oils under the name of Dr. de Jonge's.

We learn that it is the intention of Mr. Edmund Barnes, the Conservative candidate for Hoxton, to attend at the offices of the Hoxton Conservative Association, 303, Old-street, every Tuesday evening from eight p.m. to ten p.m., in order that the electors may have an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with him and his views.

GERMANY AND THE SOCIALISTS.**The Government Bill Rejected.**

The Reichstag on the 25th ult. proceeded to the debate on the third reading of the bill giving permanent effect to the anti-Socialist law. Herr Babel, Social Democrat, in a long speech, opposed the bill as giving permanence to a law which had been most leniently applied during the last few years. Herr Herr Boetticher then announced the close of the session, and requested the members to receive the imperial message in the White Hall of the royal castle. Prince Bismarck was not present at the sitting.

Speech by the German Emperor.

A Berlin telegram from Berlin received on the 25th ult. states that at the closing of the Reichstag the German Emperor said:—"The past three years form a period of such exceptional importance in the development of the empire that my feelings constrain me to recall to mind from the throne itself the results to which your labours, combined with those of the federal governments, have led. The empire was sorely tried by the death of my grandfather and father, but the loyalty and strong monarchical feeling of the people at that time found edifying demonstration. The Emperor then expressed his thanks that the changes necessitated by the decease of his two sovereign predecessors had been accomplished in peace. The country had been able to fulfil the mission which appropriately belonged to it in the empire of nations, and successfully to preserve the blessings of peace and civilisation. In his own name and that of the exalted Federal Governments, the Emperor desired to express his thanks to the deputies for their faithful

Because he knew that if he could induce the Government to spend their surplus in the utterly unprecedented way he proposed they would have none left to devote to the relief of taxation. Hence it is apparent that Mr. GLADSTONE's aim was to deprive Mr. GOSCHEN of the popularity properly due to him and to his colleagues in the event of their producing a surplus which will allow of a little lightening of the burdens of the tax-payer. Ministers, however, will scarcely fall into such a very apparent trap. The necessary expenditure on the barrack improvements, which are sadly needed, will be heavy, and it must be paid for in the usual way—in which Mr. GLADSTONE himself paid for it.

Mr. MORLEY, at Liverpool, was dull as ditchwater. Like his venerable chief, he has nothing better to talk about than the so-called "coercion" of Ireland. Like his chief, he can see no improvement in the condition of the "distressful country" which, as leader and lieutenant alike would have us believe, is more distressful now than ever. As to such trifling testimony to the contrary as is afforded by the statistics which prove the diminution of crime, the increase of material prosperity indicated by savings bank and other returns, and the almost complete collapse of coercion by the National League, Mr. MORLEY takes no account of that. All that is nothing compared with the collection of £30,000—a magnificent sum truly—for the Tenants' Defence Association. However, Mr. MORLEY knew well enough on which side he held the brief, and it was no business of his to admit that Ireland is any better off now than she was before Mr. BALFOUR'S time. One remark Mr. MORLEY made which is likely to get him into hot water with a certain section of the mob which follows the nominal leading of Mr. GLADSTONE. Mr. MORLEY complained that the Irish landlords of a past generation "gave every opportunity and temptation for the multiplication of small holdings." That, Mr. MORLEY declares, was "a monstrous economic mistake." That is as it may be. But whether it was or was not, one thing is certain—that this very "multiplication of small holdings" is the battle cry of the Radical doctrinaires on the subject of land tenure in England. Are we not constantly being told that the English landlords are unspeakable sinners just precisely because they will not do this very thing? If the multiplication of small holdings was a monstrous economic mistake in Ireland, what reason is there for supposing that it would be anything else in England? We would warn Mr. MORLEY that if he intends to go in for consistency, and to apply his Irish argument to English land, he will find that the existing confusion which prevails in the ranks of the chaotic crowd of politicians, which is united in nothing but its opposition to the Government, will be even greater than it is at present. Arguments such as this of Mr. MORLEY's go a long way to show how wide are the dissensions between the possible heirs of the Old Man's legacy of leadership.

LEGISLATIVE LIMITATION OF LABOUR.

By an overwhelming majority the delegates of the Miners' Federation have just pronounced in favour of moving Parliament to impose legislative restrictions on the hours of daily labour. They consider this a better course than to depend upon trade union methods. We are of an entirely different opinion. It seems to us that if there be one department of industry more than another where trade unions should have a strong hand, it is in this very matter of fixing the limit of daily toil. What could be more absurd and illogical than to enact that the farm hand, who is in the open air all day, should not work longer than the pitman? For the latter eight hours per diem may be quite sufficient; his labour is of an exceptionally exhausting kind. But that is not the case with farm hands, nor even with factory operatives; if the miner can toll for eight hours a day, they must be able, it is clear, to do more without unduly taxing their physical strength. And so with all other industries; each has its own conditions of healthfulness, and to impose the same rule on all would be as preposterous as to enact that all men should be of the same height. Why should not trade unions take the matter in hand, each in its own province? This would seem to be the natural way of bringing about the required re-adjustments. Perhaps the reason for preferring legislation to trade union action may be a suspicion that the working classes are in disagreement as to the expediency of placing artificial limits on the freedom of labour. It is the inherent natural right of every human being to work just as long as he pleases, and our labouring population is by no means of one mind as to the desirability of abolishing this right. So, the trade union leaders shirk the responsibility and the very possible odium of such an arbitrary abrogation of freedom, and call upon Parliament to take the initiative.

WORKHOUSE CHILDREN AND PANTOMIME.

At a meeting of the Bolton guardians, the action of the Workhouse Committee in refusing to accept the offer of Mr. Elliston, of the Theatre Royal, to allow the children of the workhouse to view the pantomime, was under consideration. A lively discussion ensued, the mover of the resolution roundly denouncing theatres and all their works. Ultimately the committee were overruled, and the invitation was accepted by eighteen votes to eight.

CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING HIS MOTHER.

At the Thames Police Court on Thursday, Samuel Coleman was charged with violently assaulting his mother, Hannah Coleman, aged 70 years, who was unable to attend the court in consequence of the severe injuries she had received.—At half-past nine o'clock the previous morning Benjamin Hatfield, a constable of the H Division, was called to Poplar Hospital, where he found the prisoner's mother with blood flowing from her forehead and head. Having obtained a cab he conveyed her to the Poplar Union. A witness informed him that the prisoner had inflicted the injuries to his mother with a boot. She was at present in the infirmary. The prisoner's sister brought him to the station, and on Hatfield charging him with violently assaulting his aged mother he denied doing so.—Mr. Kennedy remanded the prisoner for a week, and accepted bail, to see how the injured woman progressed, and for the attendance of some one who witnessed what occurred.

CLOSING OF HER MAJESTY'S EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES THEATRE.

Scene in the Haymarket.

There was much excitement on Wednesday under the colonnade of Her Majesty's Theatre, in the Haymarket, in consequence of a somewhat abrupt closing of that house. During the previous few days negotiations had been in progress between Mr. Pannell, the provisional liquidator, and Mr. Charles Coborn, acting on behalf of the principal performers. On Friday in last week the chief artists only received half their salary for the week, and were asked if they would agree to go on performing until February 1st if a guarantee were given that the other half would be forthcoming at the end of the week. Those interested held a meeting to consider the proposal, and agreed to accept the terms, subject to the amount being paid between the morning and evening performances on Feb. 1st. This, however, was not granted, it being stated that the money would be paid on that night. The performers agreed to go on, and "Cinderella" was played twice on Tuesday as usual. During the day, however, it was urged on Mr. Pannell that the guarantee should be in writing, an intimation being conveyed that unless this was given the following day the principal performers would not go upon the stage. When they came down on Wednesday for the matinee performance the company found the theatre closed. The bills announcing the performance had been pasted over, there was a notice on some of the doors that the theatre was closed, and a further notice on the box office that persons who had booked seats were to leave their names and addresses, with the dates upon which they booked, at the stage-door. The performers, many of whom were young women and girls, remained around the doors awaiting the progress of events, and the crowd augmented rapidly. Towards two o'clock there were fresh arrivals, these including persons who had intended to witness the morning performance. Many of these were people who had booked seats, and they created some confusion owing to the difficulty of reaching the stage-door, in consequence of its being besieged by the more clamorous of the locked-out performers. In addition to the ticket-holders, the only persons admitted were the bandmen, who were allowed to go into the theatre and remove their instruments. Several extra policemen were placed on duty in the vicinity. There was, however, no disorder, and the constables confined their attention to keeping a passage clear through the colonnade. A reporter, in an interview with Mr. Rogers (Miss Minnie Palmer's manager) learned from him that the action taken by Miss Minnie Palmer and the other principal performers was in consequence of the money paid at the doors by the audience before devoting to paying off debts incurred before the creditors. There were creditors, it was said, to the extent of £21,000 when the theatre opened with "Cinderella," and these began to press for payment at once. Miss Minnie Palmer's terms were £75 per week and 2½ per cent. of the entire takings, irrespective of any expenses or deductions. For the first week she received £268, and for the second £286.

Police Court Application.

Just before the rising of the Marlborough-street Police Court on Wednesday, Mr. Edward Sansom, accompanied by a number of young ladies, made an application to Mr. Hannay respecting their clothes and other property, which were detained at Her Majesty's Theatre. He performed in the pantomime of "Cinderella." When they went to the theatre that day they found the place "infested with sheriff's officers," who refused to give up anything belonging to them.—Mr. Hannay: Is it an execution?—Mr. Sansom: Yes.—Mr. Hannay: Then I can do nothing for you. If it had been, however, a distress for rent, an officer of the court might have assisted you. Did you tell them that your clothes were your tools of trade?—Mr. Sansom: Yes. If we had them we might offer ourselves to Mr. Augustus Harris, but without our means of making up, we are helpless.—Mr. Hannay: I am very sorry for you, but I cannot assist you.

Statement by Solicitors.

Messrs. Nathan and Co., of Lonelade Chambers, Chancery-lane, announce that persons lately employed at Her Majesty's Theatre may, upon applying to them, obtain an order to remove their belongings from the theatre. They deny that the theatre is infested with sheriff's officers, as stated in the police court, only one person being in charge on behalf of the sheriff.

FRAUDS ON A BENEFIT SOCIETY.

At the London County Sessions, Joseph W. Lukes, who had pleaded guilty, and was allowed to go at large upon bail, came up to receive judgment for having defrauded the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society.—Mr. Stratton, the general manager, attended for the society, and Mr. Besley, who prosecuted, said the prisoner was a journeyman baker and a member of the society, which had branches all over England and numbered 130,000. The charge against the defendant was that of receiving sick pay when he was actually in receipt of full wages. Since his plea his brother had voluntarily repaid the society all the money he had received, and under such circumstances there was no desire on the prosecutors' part for the court to deal harshly with the defendant.—Mr. Purcell said the prisoner had been for eleven years a member of the Hearts of Oak Society, and as he would no longer be entitled to any of the benefits, that of itself would be a very substantial punishment. The defendant was suffering from heart disease, and at the time of his offence he was only in receipt of half-pay. It was for the purpose of supporting his wife and seven young children, the eldest of whom was 14, that he had given way to temptation.—The learned chairman allowed the defendant to be discharged on his entering into recognisances in the sum of £10 to come up for judgment when called upon.

THE FASHION IN LADIES' HATS.

Almost all hats (says the *Ladies' Gazette of Fashion*) have broad brims flat or turned upon one side or in front. The Spanish bolero is still a favourite shape, with a deep close-fitting brim covered with velvet, and a low crown draped with folds of velvet trimmed on one side with silk pompons and cord. Passementerie trimming is used for covering the brims of toques in front, the crowns being of coloured velvet ornamented with large birds. A pretty hat in the wide boat shape is of velvet, trimmed with draped arabesque and birds. The low-crowned hat with a wide brim turned up all round is again being worn, the shape being very similar to that worn a few years ago. Plaid ribbons are used to trim the hats or bonnets worn with plaid dresses. Plaid velvet is sometimes draped round the crown of a hat, with two small pointed ends sticking up in front. A large and becoming hat of chestnut brown felt has a broad round brim, turned up at the back in upright bows above a bunch of shaded velvet chrysanthemums, a narrow band of sable ornaments the brim on the outside.

SANGUINARY SEQUEL TO THE CRONIN CASE.

Some sensation was caused in Chicago the other night by the news that Police-captain Schuetter, who took an active part in the prosecution of the defendants in the Cronin case, had been arrested. It appears that Schuetter entered a saloon, where he unexpectedly encountered several men who were witnesses for the Clan-na-Gael in the great trial. They were drinking at the bar, and recognising Schuetter, began to abuse him, finally going from words to blows. Being attacked on all sides, Schuetter drew his revolver and fired upon his assailants, badly wounding the saloon-keeper, Thomas Gibbons, and others. The police officer was released on bail shortly after his arrest.

THE FUNERAL OF SIR WILLIAM GULL.

We are requested to state for the convenience of those who wish to attend the funeral of Sir William Gull, on Monday, that the train will leave Liverpool-street Station at 10 a.m. for Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex. Special arrangements have been made for returning from Thorpe-le-Soken at 1.45 p.m., and arriving in London at 3.30 p.m.

REMARKABLE WILL CASE.

The case of Boughton v. Hindricks and another was remanded on Wednesday, being a suit in which the will of the late Mrs. Mary Rosina Horsley, of Grosvenor-place, Cheltenham, was in dispute. Mr. Chinnall (in the absence of Mr. Inderwick) and Mr. Sears appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Deane for the defendants.—The testatrix was a widow, she having been twice married, first to Colonel Jay, and secondly to Mr. Horsley, who predeceased her. On the death of her second husband, having no known relatives, she went to reside in the house of the plaintiff, Dr. Boughton, a surgeon in practice at Cheltenham. Previous to doing that she had been on friendly terms with the defendants, one of whom was a stockbroker, the other a solicitor, and by her testamentary papers, executed in 1873 and in 1885, they were benefited. On the 24th of June, 1889, she made a will which was in favour of the plaintiff. Two days after that will was made, testatrix upset a spirit lamp while in bed, and was so severely burnt that on the 28th of June she died, at the age of 72. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accidental death was returned. The plaintiff now sought to have the later will established, but this was opposed by the defendants, who alleged undue execution and unsound mind, they seeking to have the earlier testamentary papers established. In the course of the evidence given it was stated that the deceased had given way to habits of intemperance, as according to the bills produced it appeared that the deceased had had thirty bottles of brandy in seventy-two days, in addition to a large quantity of "Liebig's," which was a mixture of essence of beef and port wine, and some amusement was occasioned by a bottle of the mixture being produced, opened, and submitted to the learned judge, counsel, and the jury.—Mary Jarvis, formerly general servant to Mrs. Horsley, prior to the death of Mr. Horsley, said she had seen Mrs. Horsley after she went to live with Dr. and Mrs. Boughton. She was then much improved in health. The deceased told her that Dr. and Mrs. Boughton treated her like a son and daughter, and that she intended to make some provision for them. She knew that the deceased took a good deal to drink during Mr. Horsley's lifetime.—In cross-examination by Mr. Lockwood, the witness said she could not say Mrs. Horsley was a confirmed tippler.—In reply to Mr. Justice Butt, the witness said that Mr. Abel, the solicitor, asked her to write down her evidence, as some people had said Mrs. Horsley was a person not of sound mind. She thought that very cruel, and she wrote her statement in consequence. She always believed in the deceased.—Mr. Lawrence, a dentist at Cheltenham, said that he was at Burnham for his holiday, while Dr. Boughton, Mrs. Boughton, and the deceased were there. He dined with them, and then he saw the deceased. She was certainly at that time a perfectly sensible woman.—Mr. Lawrence, a dentist at Cheltenham, said he attended the deceased professionally in March, 1889. She then appeared quite sensible. The only thing he saw strange about her was that she had a very large tongue. (Laughter.)—Mr. Lockwood then stated the case for the defendants, and contended that the will had not been legally executed.—In the result the jury, after deliberating for ten minutes, found that the deceased was not of sound mind, memory, and understanding at the time she executed the will of last June. They found in favour of the earlier will and codicil.—These earlier documents were accordingly pronounced for by the learned judge.

OUTSIDE THE STAGE DOOR.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, James M'Avo, a well-dressed young man, occupation not tendered, from Edith Grove, Fulham-road, was charged with being drunk in Lisle-street on the previous night. Constable 30 C.R. said that at twenty minutes to twelve he found the prisoner at the back of the Empire Theatre. He was intoxicated, and a large crowd had congregated around him. On requesting him to move on he was obstinate, and said it would take four policemen to lodge him in the station.—Mr. Newton inquired what he had to say to the charge.—M'Avo, replying, said it was true that he was slightly intoxicated. He had spent the greater part of the evening there, and when in the American bar he put down a sovereign to pay for a small bottle of champagne, and the assistant only returned him 6s. 6d. charge, thus charging him 1s. 6d. for the wine. He remonstrated, and was forcibly ejected. When trying to get in again, the constable came up, and he was taken into custody.—The constable said that he found the prisoner outside the stage-door.—Prisoner: You should have gone away when the constable requested you to do so.—Prisoner: But I wanted to get my proper change.—Mr. Newton: You were drunk, and made a disturbance in the street. You must pay 10s., or be imprisoned for seven days.

FIRE AT WESTMINSTER.

Some commotion was caused in the Westminster district on Thursday morning by the report that the Westminster Palace Hotel was on fire. As it proved, it was not the Palace Hotel that had caught fire, but a floor of rooms in No. 1, Westminster Chambers, just opposite. The rooms (four in number) were on the second floor, and were occupied as offices by Messrs. F.D. and A.K. Brown and Mr. W.P. Boileau. An outbreak of fire was first discovered shortly before six o'clock, and in the course of a little time Captain Shaw had arrived with ten fire engines. The flames were quickly got under, but not before the rooms had been gutted and damaged to the amount, perhaps, of £400 or £500. Apart from this immediate loss occasioned by the fire, the floor above and that below—occupied as the Queensland Government offices—were considerably damaged by water. The cause of the fire is not known.

LAND NATIONALISATION SOCIETY AND LORD ASHBOURNE'S ACT.

The objections taken by the Land Nationalisation Society to the extension of Lord Ashbourne's Act are shortly as follows:—1. That it is intended to strengthen the system of landlordism by multiplying the number of landlords. 2. That it fails to meet any of the chief abuses of the present system, leaving the possessor power to cease using the land and to retire and let it at an oppressive rent, and to impose hampering conditions. It does not recognise the right of the labourer of access to national opportunities. 3. Responsibilities are incurred by the British taxpayer for the sake of the Irish landlords. 4. That the land question in Ireland is a matter for the Irish people to settle themselves, without the intervention of the British Government; and 5. That the landlord can take advantage of the necessities of the tenant to exact an excessive price.

THE COMMON COUNCIL AND THE GUILDFHALL LIBRARY.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council on Thursday, Mr. Treloar moved that the Guildhall library, museum, and art gallery be opened for a certain period of each Sunday. He said that since he gave notice of the motion in November last, the Lord's Day Observance Society and other institutions, at their instance, had pried him, and doubtless other members of the council, with circulars of every description denouncing the proposal. On the other hand, he had letters from the most influential persons in London and throughout the country, nearly every firm in the City, and the great majority of their employees, in favour of the opening. Canon Shutteworth wrote that in his opinion the opening would be of the greatest possible benefit to the inhabitants of the City. Mr. Alliston seconded the motion, and spoke vigorously in favour of it.—Mr. Ellis moved the previous question, which Major Johnson seconded.—Mr. Treloar's motion was defeated by a large majority.

LAST WEEK'S POLICE.

Mansion House.

IMPUDENT ROBBERY.—A young man named Andrew Cavenagh was brought before Alderman Lusk, charged with stealing a coat.—The complainant was Mr. Woolley, managing clerk to a firm in Gracechurch-street, and he stated that, while sitting in his private office, he heard a noise outside, and going out to see what was the matter, he saw the prisoner in the act of putting on his overcoat, and he was walking away when he stopped him and sent for a constable. The prisoner appeared to have walked deliberately into the office, taken the coat from a peg, and had nearly made his escape when the prosecutor came out to him.—Sir A. Lusk asked the prisoner where he came from, and how he got his living.—The prisoner replied that he came from Liverpool, and did nothing for a living.—Sir Andrew Lusk: Stealing coats among other things, I suppose? (A laugh.) You will go to prison for twenty-one days.

Guildhall.

STEALING A RUG.—Julia Allen, 40, described as a hawker of Leather-lane, Holborn, was charged with stealing a fur rug, value £2, the property of Lewis Phillips, a furrier.—John Leach, warehouseman, in the employ of Lewis Phillips, of Newgate-street, said that about a quarter past four o'clock on Friday afternoon he saw a man take a rug from their doorway. He followed the man and saw him give it to the prisoner, who wrapped it up in a shawl. The man then ran off, and the prisoner went into a public-house in a court of Paternoster-row. Witness went into St. Paul's Churchyard and fetched a constable. He gave the prisoner into custody. She still had the rug in her possession. The accused said that she did not know where the rug came from. She was very sorry, and asked to be dealt with leniently.—Sixteen previous convictions were proved against her.—Mr. Alderman Gray said that it was a very serious offence, and sentenced her to three months' hard labour.

Bow-street.

A LADY THIEF CATCHER.—Henry Wankham, 18 years of age, of respectable appearance, was charged before Mr. Bridge with stealing a quantity of wearing apparel, jewellery, &c., of the value of £15, the property of George Mounter, a messenger and caretaker, at 27, Parliament-street, a branch of the War Office.—Emily Mounter said she resided with her husband, the prosecutor, at 27, Parliament-street. On Friday night, at five o'clock, she left her rooms at the top of the building and went down stairs to clean up the offices; at a quarter past five she closed the street door and went on with her work.—Shortly afterwards she heard a footstep on the stairs and on going into the passage saw the prisoner coming downstairs with a large bundle on his back in a blanket which witness recognized as her own. Prisoner said he was looking for Mrs. Cummings, the housekeeper. (The name of Major Cummings was on a door opposite where prisoner was standing.) Witness requested prisoner to be good enough to wait with her till some one came, and they stood in the passage for about ten minutes, when prisoner begged for mercy and asked witness not to touch a policeman. Witness said, "Oh, certainly not, but kindly wait here with me till a soldier who is below comes up." Up till this time nothing whatever had been said about the bundle in prisoner's possession. Sergeant Gelling shortly afterwards came upstairs, and witness asked him to take care of prisoner while he fetched her husband. Prosecutor came in and a constable was sent for, and prisoner was taken to the station. On being searched this bundle was found to contain three suits of clothes, witness's wedding dress, three other dresses, a quantity of silk handkerchiefs, a silver bracelet, and other articles.—Mr. Bridge commended witness highly for the way she had acted.—The address given by the prisoner was false.

A LADY ON "SHARP PRACTICE."—A lady of apparently somewhat excitable temperament entered the witness-box and applied for a summons against a solicitor, whose name she mentioned, for detaining a document which she alleged he was keeping back from her, and which would be of material use to her in a case she had on in the High Court against another person for illegal trespass. Speaking with remarkable clearness, but at lightning speed, she explained her position. There was, she said, an illegal trespass committed by the person whom she had mentioned, and several of her papers were now in the hands of the solicitor, who was willing to give her back all the papers except one, to which she attached a special value.—Mr. Bridge, having looked at a sworn information which the applicant produced, asked: What value can this paper possibly be to Mr. —?—Applicant (promptly): £15. It might be the means of my losing my action for illegal trespass which I am now carrying on in person in her Majesty's High Court of Justice. I am the niece of the late Justice Shee, and I know, from bitter experience, that sharp practice is the order of the day in the High Court.—Mr. Bridge again asked what value could be attached to the document in question, which, as far as he could see, would not, if produced, be admissible as evidence in the action the applicant was carrying on.—He was interrupted by the applicant, who said: If the light of justice is not to shine on me let her Majesty say so.—Mr. Bridge: You say the solicitor is willing to give you up some of your papers. Go and get those he is willing to give you.—Applicant: No; if I went he might say no had given me the document I want.—Mr. Bridge: Go and get the papers.—Applicant: Am I to have justice or not?—Mr. Bridge: Go and get the papers, I say. Take some person with you whose evidence can be relied on, and make a record of those papers he gives you.—Applicant: I understand. Your worship thinks he will slip in the document I want. I thank your worship.

AFFRAY BETWEEN DRIVERS IN THE STRAND.—Thomas Henry Coles, an omnibus driver, was summoned for assaulting Edward Morley, a cab-driver, by striking him with his whip.—In this case there was a collision between complainant's cab and defendant's omnibus between St. Mary's Church and St. Clement Danes. The complainant swore that the defendant struck him first, after which he returned the blow, but he admitted that he might have hit one of the passengers with his whip.—For the defence the passenger on the bus was called, who stated that the cabman assaulted the bus driver first, and also hit the witness in the hand.—Mr. Bridge upon this dismissed the summons.

Marlborough-street.

ALLEGED BURGLARY AT A WEST-END CLUB.—Frank Cunningham, 22, waiter, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, was charged with burglariously breaking into the premises of the Primrose Club, 4, Park-place, and with stealing therefrom three overcoats, worth £1 to the property of Mr. John Stuart, Mr. Cuthbert W. Mapleton, and Mr. William Hale Gall, members of the club.—Police-sergeant July, 6 C, said that at a quarter past two o'clock that morning while passing along King-street, St. James's, he met Cunningham carrying an overcoat and an umbrella under his arm, and noticed that he was wearing two overcoats. On his interrogating him as to his reasons for having three overcoats, he said that the number porter of the Roy.-I. Thames Yacht Club had given them to take to the Army and Navy Club. Not being satisfied with this explanation, he accompanied the prisoner to the latter club, when, finding that there was no truth in the statement, he took him into custody. At the police station he said that a man came up to him about midnight in Trafalgar-square and asked him "to dispose of the coats." On searching the garments witness found a sheet of note-paper bearing the heading of the Primrose Club. On making inquiries there he was told that Police-constable 33 had found the door and smoking-room window open at half-past two.—First Hudson, a valet at the Primrose Club, stated that at twenty minutes past one he bolted

the front door, at which time the coats and umbrella were quite safe in the hall.—Thomas Robert Stanley, a waiter, said that about a year ago Cunningham was a fellow-waiter of his at the Primrose Club.—The owners of the coats having identified them, Mr. Newton remanded the case for a week.

A MUSICIAN IN TROUBLE.—Lucia Dale, who described himself as a musician, of Buckingham-street, was brought up for being in Lyric Chambers, Shaftesbury Avenue on Friday night, for the purpose, as was alleged, of committing a felony.—William Henry Chapman, the housekeeper, said that shortly before twelve o'clock he found the prisoner in a bath-room on the first floor. He must have entered by the swing doors from the front, then have gone up the staircase, where, opening a window, he jumped into a small triangular area, and have passed through another window into a corridor and the bath-room. A dog which belonged to witness rushed from his sitting-room and gave the alarm, and when witness went to the prisoner he was trembling violently—indeed, he was an object of terror from the manner in which the dog tried to get hold of him. On asking him what business he had there he said he was very ill, and entered the chambers to rest. Seeing the door open he thought he might as well take shelter there as in any other place. He did not go there to steal, and would rather die than be branded as a thief.—He was remanded for inquiry.

Marylebone.

SERIOUS CRIMES AGAINST A BUTLER.—Edward Cornish, 29, a butler, was charged on remand with stealing a quantity of jewellery, linen, and Dresden china, valued at £250, belonging to Mr. Charles Lloyd Mitford, a gentleman residing in Cavendish-square.—The evidence was that the prisoner had been in the prosecutor's service as butler for a few months. He left in December, and soon afterwards the prosecutor began to discover that his jewellery had been stolen, also that house linen was missing, and that old and expensive wine had been abstracted from the wine-cellar, and in the place of it new and inferior wine had been substituted. There had also been reason to doubt the genuineness of the character by which the prisoner obtained the situation.—Detective-sergeant Morgan, D Division, arrested the prisoner at Newcastle-on-Tyne, where he had been detained. A pawnbroker, of High-street, Marylebone, had been applied to for a portion of the jewellery missed, but he failed to produce it until the prisoner himself gave the police information.—Mr. Cooke directed that attention should be called to this fact when the pawnbroker asked for the renewal of his license. He committed the prisoner for trial.

Clerkenwell.

PURSE STEALING AT ISLINGTON.—James Garretty, 26, refusing to state his address and occupation, was charged, on remand, with being concerned, with three other men not in custody, in stealing a purse containing 3s. from Mrs. Elizabeth Jefferson, on the 17th ult.—Prosecutor, a feeble-looking old lady, said she was walking along Park-street, Islington, when the prisoner and three other men surrounded her just as she was about to enter a shop. She asked them to allow her to pass, when the prisoner and another man held her arms, while a third put his hand into a basket she was carrying and extracted her purse. She called out "Stop thief!" and the men ran off.—A lad, named John Peters, said that he and another lad witnessed the robbery. They afterwards followed the men to Liverpool-road, where the prisoner got on an omnibus. Witness informed a constable, who stopped the omnibus, and took Garrett into custody. The other men ran down a side turning and escaped. The purse was not recovered.—Mr. Brox sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour.

ALLEGED CRIMINAL ASSAULT.—James Knight Botters, 28, carman, was charged with a felony under the Criminal Law Amendment Act.—The case exhibited a very peculiar feature, the offence having, it is alleged, been committed as far back as August last, the child, Edith Anis, being 14 years of age. She lived with her aunt, a Mrs. Sands, in William-street, Clerkenwell, and the prisoner lodged in the house. The aunt's suspicion was aroused in November last from what a young child of her own told her, and she questioned the girl, and her husband the prisoner, but the charge was met by denials on both sides. The girl was examined by a surgeon, whose evidence was confirmatory of her misconduct, but she denying it, nothing was done. In some unexplained way a Society for the Protection of Women got knowledge of the accusation, and wrote to the commissioner of police. On the 22nd ult. the prisoner was suddenly arrested, but when told he had made no confession. The child was afterwards questioned by her two aunts and her mother, and now she went into the witness-box and said the prisoner had criminally assaulted her when her aunt and uncle were out of the house.—The prisoner was committed for trial.

Thames.

SEQUEL TO THE ALLEGED MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.—John Malleson, 21, was charged with assaulting Constable 20 H.R.—The officer said on Friday night he saw prisoner and others round the man Charles Feeley, who was in custody for five weeks on the charge of committing perjury in connection with a case in which four men were sentenced to penal servitude, and who was discharged last week. Witness told them to leave him alone, when one of the men struck him (Feeley), a violent blow and made off. Witness followed, when he was tripped up and thrown to the ground by one of the men. He got up and again followed the man, when prisoner came up, tripped him up, and threw him heavily to the ground. The man was pursuing got away, and he then arrested the accused.—Charles Feeley stated as he was going home on Friday night several men followed him. He ran away, but they caught him up, and one of them struck him. Another one in the presence of the constable punched witness in the face, cutting his mouth on the inside. He did not see prisoner do anything.—Prisoner denied having assaulted the constable, but Mr. Lushington believed the case made out, and sentenced him to two months' hard labour.

Worship-street.

ALLEGED HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—Thomas Pinck, 23, cork-cutter, of Gossett-street, Bethnal Green, was charged with being concerned in assaulting Frederick Bentley, and robbing him of £3 in money.—The prosecutor said he was a bookbinder, living in Hunt-street, Mile End, and at about 12 o'clock on the previous night he was in Bethnal Green-read "rather the worse for liquor," when under a railway arch several men got hold of him, hustled him about, knocked him over, and rifled his pockets. He lost £3 in gold and silver, and called out "Police!" upon which the men ran away.—A witness named Payne said he saw the prisoner leaning over the prosecutor as he lay on the ground, and Police-constable Rockingham, 504 J, said that he caught the prisoner, who denied having anything to do with the chaps. Only £1 was found on the prisoner, and the police could not say that there was anything against his character.—Mr. Bushby ordered a remand for inquiry.

West London.

AN ARTFUL TRICK.—William Smith, a respectably-dressed young man, was charged with stealing a dead fowl, belonging to Mr. W. E. Andley, of Earl's Court-road, by means of a trick.—It appeared that on the 11th ult. the prisoner entered the prosecutor's shop, and selected a fowl, value £6, and requested it to be sent to Warwick-road, at the same time stating that it would be paid for on delivery. The fowl was handed to William Johnson, the errand boy, who went with it to Warwick-road, but he could not find the house. On returning he met the prisoner, who said he would take him to it. While they were walking together the prisoner entered into conversation with the boy about the number of

Christmas boxes he had received, and induced him to give him the fowl. The boy returned without the fowl, and the prisoner was not seen again until Friday night, when he was found endeavouring to obtain a fowl from another shop, the same address being given. He attempted to make his escape, but he was caught and charged.—The prisoner, who described himself as a groom, said he had been drinking and was very sorry.—The boy stated that the prisoner was sober.—Mr. Pinck remanded him for fourteen days.

Westminster.

AN ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.—James Thomson, 20, marine store dealer, of Blackland Cottages, Chelsea, was charged as a suspected person, found in enclosed premises belonging to Messrs. Garlick and Co., builders, of Maures-road, Chelsea, for the purpose of committing a felony.—In consequence of a communication made by a youth, named Vernon, in the employment of the prosecutor, that overtures had been made to him to admit men at night to commit a robbery, Detectives Edwards and Butterworth on Friday evening secured themselves in a workshop, and immediately prisoner walked in, having been admitted by Vernon, he was seized by the detectives and charged. His explanation was that he came there to assist in feeding a pony.—Mr. Shell remarked that as the master stood the charge preferred must fail. The police did not wait till he did anything, and so far it came to nothing at all.—Detective-sergeant Edwards said the arrangement was to steal a quantity of lead, but at the last moment two men who were to be admitted with the prisoner by Vernon backed out and declined to enter. Vernon was in court to give evidence.—Mr. Shell: If anything is a conspiracy, I will remand the prisoner now without going further into the matter to-day.

HOUSEBREAKING AND ALLEGED RECEIVING.

Thomas Wilkinson, 59, shoemaker, and Emily, his daughter, aged 18, both of 6, Brunswick-row, Westminster, where the male prisoner has a shop, were brought up in custody, before Mr. Shell, charged on remand with being concerned in the breaking and entering of a dwelling-house, 275, Leydale-road, Nunhead, and stealing money, jewellery, and clothes therefrom, belonging to Mr. Charles Henry Arnold, Civil Service clerk, the occupier. They were further charged with complicity in a robbery of plate, value £10, from the housekeeper's room at 6, Fouli-terrace, Fulham-road, on the 17th ult. Mr. Keith Frith defended.—On the morning of Saturday, the 18th ult., Detectives Beard and Dougal followed the girl Wilkinson from her father's shop to Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, where they stopped her, and asked for information about a large bundle she was carrying. This was found to consist of an overcoat, in one of the pockets of which were tea-spoons, a sugar tongs, and a ladle. Under her skirt, in a detachable pocket, the searcher discovered some silver lace, a broken silver ladle, and a pair of silver earrings, identified as part of the proceeds of the robbery at Nunhead.—Mr. Arnold, the occupier of the house there, likewise identified an overcoat, which it was worn the male prisoner for which was found, with a number of other pawnbills, behind his shop counter.—Mr. Arnold explained that his house was entered, and the bed-rooms ransacked while he and his family were away for the day. They went out in the morning leaving the place unoccupied. Some of the broken silver and plate found on the female prisoner at the time of her arrest was a portion of what was stolen from the housekeeper's room in the basement of Miss Grimston's house in Fouli-terrace, Onslow Gardens, about midday on the 17th ult.—Mr. Keith Frith said he should call witnesses for the prisoners, who were remanded, the witnesses for the prosecution being bound over to attend at the Old Bailey.

Southwark.

OMNIBUS RACING.—James Bullen, a driver of a "Star" omnibus, appeared to a summons taken out by the police for wantonly and negligently driving to the danger of the public.—Inspector Eason said, on the 10th ult. he was riding outside the "Star" omnibus to the London General Omnibus Company from the Elephant and Castle, and soon after the bus started, the defendant, who was driving a "Star" or "Harbour Light" bus, endeavoured to pass. Finding he could not pass, the defendant became very much annoyed, and when they reached Newington Causeway he lashed his horses and drove his bus right across the track of the bus witness was on, and then by a dexterous movement of the reins swung the "bus" round, causing it to "cannon" the horses of the London General bus and force them on the pavement. This kind of thing the defendant repeated several times, and it alarmed the passengers very much, one lady insisting upon getting out of witness's bus fearing an accident would happen, and but for the careful driving of the other omnibus, witness felt sure a very serious accident would have occurred.—In answer to the summons, the defendant said he would plead guilty, but he wished to state that the other omnibus drivers frequently served him the same, and sometimes "sandwiched" him the whole of the way from the Elephant and Castle to the Bank. In fact, the driver of the London General omnibus had served him exactly the same the previous journey, but having an inspector on his bus, he (defendant) supposed the other driver was a "bit too clever for him."—Inspector Eason said that, although attached to another division, it was such a flagrant case that he felt it was his duty to bring the matter before his worship.—Mr. Slade fined him £10. and costs.—The money was paid.

Dalston.

DO UNTO YOUR NEIGHBOUR, &c.

CHARGE OF CRUELLY ILL-TREATING A CHILD.—Susannah Webb, 36, wife of Mons. Verone, described as a professional ventriloquist and the night-reader, living at 48, Tapton-road, Tottenham, was charged before Mr. Haden Corser with violently assaulting her son, Henry Louis Webb, aged 8 years. Mr. Phillips, solicitor, represented the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, who had taken up the case; and the prisoner was defended by Mr. C. V. Young.—Mr. Phillips said there were two separate charges of assault against the prisoner, one on January 16th, and the other as recent as the 21st, and the police doctor would state that the child's body was a mass of bruises. There was no doubt that the prisoner had shockingly beaten the child while in drink, but that, of course, was no excuse for her inhuman conduct.—The boy, an under-sized delicate-looking child, said that on the 16th his mother beat him with the leather strap produced on the back and arms, and when he cried out a policeman struck him in the mouth a violent blow with her fist, causing it to bleed. A policeman and another man, and Mrs. Parkes entered the room to protect him. The policeman stripped him and saw the bruises on his body. On Tuesday morning witness was in the kitchen. Mrs. Poulton, the landlady, and her little girl were in the room at the time, and the prisoner then kicked him on the legs because he told the little girl that his mother was in the public-house. On going upstairs his mother severely beat him with the strap on his legs and arms and face. The bruises and cuts now visible on his face were caused in that way.—Other evidence having been given, the prisoner was remanded.

Croydon.

THIRTY-TWO TIMES CONVICTED.—Mary Ward, described as a married woman, of Lewis's Cottages, Mitcham, was charged for the thirty-second time with being drunk and disorderly at The Causeway, Mitcham, on the 25th ult. She admitted this charge.—Sir Thomas Edridge: Before we go any further, how do you account for it?—Prisoner: I have been a teetotaller for three weeks.—Sir Thomas: Yes, for a very good reason.—Prisoner: I took the pledge in prison when you gave me a month, and I wanted my husband to be a teetotaller, but he won't, and I

got into trouble. I found him at the Three Kings on Friday night, and had some beer.—Police-constable Pearce, 54 W.E., stated that at 1.20 this morning the prisoner came to the police station and said she wanted to be locked up. She was drunk. Witness put her outside and advised her to go away, but she became so disorderly that he was obliged to lock her up.—Inspector Wilson said that on December 2nd last she was sentenced to a month's hard labour.—Sir Thomas Edridge: Well, Mary Ward, you must go once more for a month's imprisonment, with hard labour.—She was removed weeping.

Wandsworth.

CAULTRY TO A HORSE.—Henry Wall, a carman in the employ of Robert Shoulin, a coachman, was charged as a suspect, found in enclosed premises belonging to Vauxhall Bridge-road, appeared to answer a summons for ill-treating a horse.—Mr. John Lee, a schoolmaster, of Gedior-road, Battersea, said he saw the defendant in charge of a grey horse attached to a van. Three other men were travelling with him in the van. His attention was drawn to the defendant, who struck the animal about a dozen times with his whip. He told the defendant to treat the horse properly, whereupon he said, "What do you know about driving children? If I had a gun I would shoot you." He then got out of the van and struck the horse several violent blows with the stock of the whip. The magistrate imposed a penalty of 20s. with costs.

INQUESTS.

SAD DEATH THROUGH GRIEVE.—Mr. G. P. Wyatt, deputy-coroner, held an inquest at the Crown, High-street, Lambeth, on the body of Sarah Ann Webb, aged 61 years, the wife of William Webb, a stone-sawyer, living at 22, Paradise-street, Lambeth, whose death occurred under sad circumstances.—The husband said that the deceased had been almost prostrated with grief since the sudden death of their daughter, which only occurred on Monday week. Deceased gave evidence at the inquest, which, strange to say, was also held at the Crown, and subsequently attended the funeral. Upon returning from the cemetery she was seized with a fit of trembling, and after partaking of a cup of tea went to bed, where she remained the whole of Wednesday. Witness went to bed as usual, and upon awaking about seven o'clock on Thursday morning found her lying dead on his side. He at once sent for a medical man.—Dr. Charles Sangster, of Guy's Hospital, attended the deceased, and pronounced her dead.—Dr. Kirk, of 4, Columbia-street, stated that he found the deceased fully dressed, with her bonnet on, and was of opinion that she had just returned from a walk, had sat down, and suddenly expired, then falling on the chair. He was of opinion that death was due to syncope, and the jury taking that view, returned a verdict accordingly.

SUICIDE IN BETNAL GREEN.—At Bethnal Green Vestry Hall an inquest was held by Dr. Macdonald respecting the death of Henry Godwin, aged 36, a hawker, lately living at 11, Knottiford-street, Bethnal Green.—Annie Godwin, the widow, deposed that she left her mother at home at 2.0 p.m. on January the 22nd in her usual good health. On returning, at ten p.m., she was horrified to find her mother lying on the floor of her room dead.—Dr. Kirk, of 4, Columbia-street, stated that he found the deceased fully dressed, with her bonnet on, and was of opinion that she had just returned from a walk, had sat down, and suddenly expired, then falling on the chair. He was of opinion that death was due to syncope, and the jury taking that view, returned a verdict accordingly.

SUICIDE IN BETNAL GREEN.—At Bethnal Green Vestry Hall an inquest was held by Dr. Macdonald respecting

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

Seven persons were drowned in London last week.

Our supply of onions in December came—to the extent of 324,600 bushels—from abroad.

The over-laying victims do not decrease. Fourteen infants were again suffocated in London last week.

There were 2,510 births in London last week, 50 below the average in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years.

Again not a single death from small-pox was last week registered in any of the twenty-eight great towns of England.

Charles Crood, a Derby tailor, adopted a deliberate method of ending his life. Smoking a cigar, he walked deliberately into the Derwent.

Norwich was last week, judging from the mortality returns, the healthiest of the great English cities. The death rate stood at 15·9.

We eat fewer apples. We imported 426,629 bushels of apples during December, a great reduction on the imports of the previous December.

Sixty deaths in London last week were attributable to some kind of violence, five were cases of suicide and five of murder or manslaughter.

All the tickets for the farewell banquet to Mr. J. L. Toole, at the Hôtel Métropole, on the 12th of February, have been disposed of.

A memorial is to be erected to Elizabeth Barrett Browning in the shape of a tower clock in the principal street of Ledbury, Herefordshire.

Mr. Toole will make a short trip to the Riviera about the middle of February, in company with Mr. Charles Wyndham.

Under the will of the late Mr. Wallis, chemist, of Plumstead, who died last week, the 2nd Kent Artillery Volunteers receive property worth £1,000.

Old Farmer Forbes, of Arbutnott, was in the act of crossing the line of railway at Fordoun Station, when he was struck by the engine of a special train and killed almost instantaneously.

A distinguished and numerous company assembled on Tuesday afternoon at the British Museum, by invitation of the trustees, to inspect the new installation of the electric light.

Mr. Gladstone and Lord Hartington have issued circulars to their supporters respectively, requesting them to be in their places in the House of Commons on the day of the opening of Parliament.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Herman Oelrichs, American manager of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, to Miss Fair, daughter of Senator Fair, one of the pioneer silver kings of California.

Where have been the reporters' wits that they have given us no interesting information concerning that old inmate of the Camberwell Union who died last week at the age of 106? The old man was formerly an interpreter.

The other evening, while a Royal Arch Chapter was in conclave at the Masonic Hall, Chester, an adroit thief managed to steal about £40 worth of jewels and clothing from the ante-room and get away safely.

The "clansman" of Devon and Cornwall who reside in London hold high festival once a year. The Lord Chancellor will take the chair at this year's Devonian dinner, and the Right Hon. Lord Courtney will preside over the festivities of the Cornishmen.

The third series of lectures given by the Sunday Lecture Society begin on Sunday afternoon, the 2nd of February, in St. George's Hall, Langham-place, at four p.m., when Dr. B. W. Richardson, F.R.S., will lecture on "The Health of the Mind, and Mental Contagions."

The "Queen of St. Kilda" is engaged to be married to a native widower on the island. The rent will be a great one. For the first time in the history of the island a gold wedding ring is to be used. Hitherto a ring made of wrought has been made to do duty.

A determined suicide was discovered the other morning at No. 12, Nottingham-court, Endell-street, where George Tent, a costermonger, aged about 35, was found hanging by his bedsheet. He had been very quiet and rather depressed lately. Beyond the fact that he was living apart from his wife, no reason is assigned for his suicide.

At St. Lawrence House, the property of Major Ames, at present occupied by Sir George and Lady Tryon, was broken into on Wednesday night. The burglars forced the drawing-room windows, and ransacked the lower rooms, taking chiefly such silver and silver mounting as they could find.

A meeting in connection with the English Land Restoration League was held the other night in St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, and a resolution was adopted condemning any scheme of land purchase which would entail the risk of burdening the British taxpayers for the benefit of Irish landlords.

The debate on the proposal relative to the acquisition of a site for a new chamber and offices was continued at the weekly meeting of the London County Council. An amendment to defer the consideration of the matter till July next was rejected, and Sir Thomas Farrer's motion, instructing a committee to consider the subject, was carried by 12 votes to 3.

Lord Dunraven, chairman of the Select Committee of the House of Lords which sat last session to consider the sweating system, has received a deputation of East-end tailors, who pressed for the early presentation of the report, and mentioned various fresh grievances which have arisen in the trade. His lordship deprecated the introduction of new questions, as that would only delay the report.

The following story of crime comes from Columbia: William Black, a coloured youth, who had just completed a term in the penitentiary for stealing clothing, and returned to his home in Barnwell county, was on Friday so knighted tied to a tree by a white man, named David Ready, and shot to death. Before committing the brutal deed Ready knelt down and prayed for his victim. Several white men stood by and witnessed the murder without protest.

This is the method of catechism which, according to a local paper, takes place in the parochial school of a South Staffordshire village:—Q.: Children, you know which is the true Church, don't you?—A.: Yes, sir.—Q.: You know that there is only one true Church?—A.: Yes, sir.—Q.: The Lord Jesus Christ made our Church, you know. He had nothing to do with the making of these little petty chapels that are about, did he?—A.: No, sir.

"One of the oddest points in the whole subject of modern women is," writes Mrs. Frank Leslie, "the infatuation which induces a good many women of average intellect to pretend to be simpletons. Why do they do it? It is because there is a class of men who fancy that they like and wish to marry simpletons. Or do the women themselves admire this style? I cannot imagine which, but I will give all pretended simpletons the famous advice, Don't."

A serious accident is reported from Bloomington, Illinois. A lecture in chemistry was being given at the High School there, when a retort in which oxygen gas was being made for a certain experiment exploded. The professor was terribly burned, especially about the face, and it is feared he may lose his sight. Furthermore, twenty of the boys and girls, who were scholars of the school, and were gathered round the platform, were injured, three of them seriously.

Mr. Henry Ellington, a cab proprietor, residing at 14, Shellwood-road, Battersea, was having some treatment in the Clapstone, at Battersea, when Mary Bevose and another woman commenced singing. On his remarking that they did not know how to sing Irish songs, Bevose struck him in the head with a potter's pot, breaking the bone of. She then caught hold of another pot, and struck him in the mouth. Max's exhibited the abomination. The resolution was adjourned.

was, at the Wandsworth Police Court, rewarded with two months' hard labour.

Canada does a big business in home-made cheese. In 1888-89 its exports amounted to \$3,160,021lb.

Telegrams received at Zanzibar tend to confirm the belief that Dr. Peters, the leader of a German expedition in East Africa, is alive.

The Duchess of Fife has consented to open a bazaar, to be held in the grounds of University College in June next, on behalf of the funds of University Hospital.

Lord Justice Fry presided at a meeting at Lincoln's Inn, and urged members of the bar to assist the Charity Organisation Society in grappling with the poverty surrounding the Inns of Court.

It is officially announced that the examination to be held on March 12 and 13 is the Army Preliminary Examination, applications for which should be sent to the Civil Service Commissioners by February 12.

Two people were talking science the other evening, when the germ theory came under discussion. "Just to think we are composed of germs!" he exclaimed. "Why, then, we are all Germans," said she. "Yes," said he, "except the Irish, and they are Miokrobes."

At the annual distribution of prizes to students of St. Albans School of Art, it was announced that Miss Ellen Terry visited the school last week, and was so pleased with the work of the students that she offered an annual prize of £10 for the next three years for subjects to be hereafter decided upon.

Mr. Melville Leslie MacNaughten has been appointed a acting chief constable of the metropolitan police, in the place of the late Mr. A. F. Williamson. Chief-inspector James Butcher has been promoted to be superintendent in connection with the Criminal Investigation Department, Scotland Yard.

Notwithstanding the stringent regulation enforced in Cheshire for the muzzling of dogs, a serious case of rabies has occurred at Hyde. A large hound, wearing an ordinary strap muzzle, the other day attacked two men and a child, inflicting serious injuries. They will proceed to Paris to undergo M. Pasteur's treatment.

A correspondent states that in Suffolk enormous damage is being done by rats to stocks and house-tacklings. At a fair at Lanfield recently 163 of the vermin were killed during the threshing of a beam-stack of ordinary size and another, a very small one. On a second farm sixteen were driven from one hole by a ferret, which subsequently died from the injuries it had received.

Princess Christian has been laid up at Wiesbaden with an attack of influenza. Her Royal Highness had a very high temperature, and for two or three days suffered great pain in the limbs. She is now better, but still very weak. The princess's eyes are decidedly stronger, though the sight of one is much impaired. She will remain at Wiesbaden for some months, not returning to England before May.

It is proposed to convert her Majesty's prison at Aylesbury into a female penitentiary, to which the convicts now at Woking would be removed. Negotiations have for some time been in progress between the War Office and the Home Secretary for the acquisition for military purposes of the Woking Female Convict Prison, as well as the adjacent prison presented by the prisoner's solicitor, who has ordered the immediate release of the prisoner.

There is an inmate in the union house at Bourne (Lincolnshire) who is a clergyman of the Church of England. He was formerly chaplain of the workhouse where now he is a pauper inmate, and has written to the board of guardians complaining of the dietary, which matter is now under consideration. He was transferred to Bourne from a union in Kent, into which he had been admitted in a state of destitution. He had formerly been received into the workhouse at Marybone.

A shocking attempt was made on Wednesday evening, about a mile from Dauntonbury Station, to wreck the Great Western express which leaves Paddington for Bristol at past six. A heavy iron lever was placed across the rails and securely fixed by a pickaxe driven into the ground. There is a steep incline at the place, and the express, travelling nearly sixty miles an hour, cut the obstruction clean through. The shock to the engine was very severe. The police are making inquiries, but no arrests have been made.

A singular story is reported from Yorkshire. It is stated that two itinerant fowlers travelling with a performing bear stopped for refreshments at an inn at Spratley, a village near Hull, when the bear got loose and made its escape. It attacked and injured a labourer, and wounded several sheep. The savage brute was found in a wood, and, although it was chased by farmers, it is said to be still at large. The showmen decamped after finding the animal had got loose.

There is every prospect, up to the present time, of the Easter manoeuvres at Dover and district this year being carried out on a larger scale than usual, the authorities at Dover, Shoreham, and Walmer having all received intimations which leave no doubt that field operations on an extended scale will take place in all those centres. Barrack accommodation will be required for many mortars that can be furnished, and in all probability some of them will camp out at Deal, where Volunteer manoeuvres at Canterbury took place for the first time last year.

The other night a cabman, named James Lane, was seen running about the streets of Portsmouth in his shirt sleeves, pursued by his sister, but before she could stop him he fell dead. An inquest was held, when it was shown the deceased had been confined to his house by influenza, but, becoming delirious, had eluded observation and rushed out of the house. He ran more than a mile before he succumbed. His exposure to the night air set up acute pneumonia, which was certified to be the cause of death.

A pipe in a boiler exploded the other day at the works of the Electric Light Supply Company in Sardinia-place, Lincoln's Inn Fields, and a man named John Morris, 25 years of age, was so severely scalded that he had to be removed to King's College Hospital. The report of the explosion was very loud, and created considerable consternation in the neighbourhood; it being thought that a big disaster had occurred. It also created great confusion at the works, a large number of men being employed there. Eight boilers are employed at the works.

Sir M. Hicks Beach, speaking at Chester, attributed Mr. Gladstone's reticence as to his future policy to the widening gulf between him and the more active members of his party. As to the Portuguese difficulty, he said the Government had no option but to act as they had done; but with regard to Mr. H. Gladstone's prophecy as to defeat for the Government in the coming session, and consequent dissolution of Parliament, he believed it would be falsified by events, as it had been before, because the Government based their measures on popular lines.

The Lord Mayor presided at the Mansion House over a meeting held to consider questions affecting the native races of Africa. Lord Granville moved a resolution thanking the King for the Belgians for convening the Anti-Slavery Conference at Brussels, and expressed his approval of Lord Salisbury's action in the matter. This was seconded by the Duke of Fife, who, as president of the British South African Company, said they desired not to be regarded as a mere trading society, as their functions embraced the civilization and elevation of the native races.

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and a message from the King of the Belgians was read.

Emin Pacha is reported to be much better. He has left the hospital for a private house at Bagamoyo, which place he is unwilling to leave.

The Queen-Regent of Spain, accompanied by the court and many of the nobility, attended a thanksgiving service in the Royal Chapel at Madrid, for the recovery of the young King.

Disastrous floods have occurred throughout Spain, especially in the Maryborough district. Great damage has been done, and six persons have

galloped several times, and finally carry him off in right royal fashion.

Earl Spencer has finally determined not to sell the library at Althorp.

Miss Ellen Terry has been on the stage thirty-three years. Patti has been twenty-seven years on the operatic stage.

The re-armament of the Royal Horse Artillery and field batteries serving in India is to be proceeded with at once.

"Properly and liberally managed, the good still to be done by the People's Palace cannot," says Sir Edmund Currie, "be calculated."

The trade between Canada and the United States reached last year—in spite of the high tariff—no less a sum than \$94,059,844.

Poor little Hugh Gilbert, the son of a miner at Harthill, has met with a curious death. The child fell into a basinful of boiling water standing on the floor.

The Royal Meteorological Society intend to have an exhibition in London in March of instruments and photographs illustrating the application of photography to meteorology.

Not the least interesting of the presents to Mr. Gladstone's bride is a portrait of Miss Maud Rendell's mother, for which 3,000 women of Montgomeryshire subscribed 2s. 6d. each.

The sculler O'Conor has written a letter, in which he relates the disparaging remarks recently uttered respecting him by Hanlan. He declares he is willing to row the latter any distance, and beat him 2 to 1 he beats him.

Mr. Baron Huddleston, who had been very unwell for some days past, underwent an operation at the hands of Sir Henry Thompson on Wednesday, and, we are glad to hear, is progressing satisfactorily.

Lord Harrowby is confined to his room at Sandon Hall, Staffordshire, with a somewhat severe attack of the prevailing influenza epidemic. As a consequence, his public engagements have had to be postponed or cancelled.

The attempt to rival Germany by manufacturing toys in England has proved successful so far. It is a branch of commercial enterprise worth attention. We send annually two millions abroad for toys.

There is a vast quantity of meat required in Europe over and above what is produced. In France 226,000 tons are yearly required; Germany, 360,000 tons; Austria, 15,000 tons; Belgium, 481,000 tons; England, 672,000 tons.

The Marquis of Bute delivered the inaugural address of the University College of South Wales at Cardiff. He advocated the study of the classics, and that more attention should be given to the Italian and Spanish languages.

A bill has been introduced into the Canadian Parliament to charter a Canada cable company for a new cable from Ireland to some point on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, where connection will be made with the land lines. The contract is already made for a cable in London.

The members of the Hons. Frères Club entertained Mr. J. L. Toole at a supper at the Café Royal on Wednesday evening prior to his departure to Australia. Mr. Henry living presided. The proceedings did not commence till after midnight, and were prolonged until an early hour.

Lord Charles Conyngham, brother of the present Marquis of Conyngham, has met with a severe accident whilst riding in Jersey. He was thrown from his horse, and sustained, besides a shock to the system, a compound fracture of one of his wrists. According to the latest information his lordship is progressing favourably.

Denis Connal, who was charged with the murder of Denis Daly, near Castleisland, in November, 1888, and whose five trials at Maryborough and Tullamore Assizes resulted in the disagreement of the juries, has been secretly discharged on the condition that he left the country. He embarked for America under an assumed name.

At the annual meeting of the Manchester Athenaeum a letter was read from Mr. H. M. Stanley, in reply to an invitation to address the members on his travels in Africa, expressing regret that he is so pledged to engagements that he does not see his way to fix any date this season.

The whole side of the ruined palace of Saint Cloud, covering what used to be the Saloon of Mars, and close to the public road, gave way the other night, breaking all the enclosures, and filling the space with large blocks of stone and rubble.

The steamer La Place, which has arrived at New York from Rio de Janeiro, reports a story to the effect that forty sailors were recently executed by the Brazilian authorities for shooting "Long life to the Emperor" in the streets of Rio whilst in liquor.

The Prince of Wales has intimated, through the general officer commanding the Southern District, his satisfaction at the extremely smart and soldierlike appearance of the Volunteer escorts furnished, and the efficient manner in which their duties were carried out, during his royal highness's visit to Bournemouth on the 16th and to Poole on the 18th ult.

A retired Army officer, in the service of a Vienna brewery firm, who went to deposit his money in the bank, fell down in a faint; and when he recovered, a paper bag, containing 34,000 florins, was missing from his person. It is believed, according to the Standard Vienna correspondent, that it had been picked up by another visitor to the bank.

According to a statement supplied to the Marine and Fisheries Department in Canada, the total pack of salmon in British Columbia in 1888 reached the enormous total of 414,234 cases. Of the total product 182,432 cases were shipped to London, 13,013 to Liverpool, 42,261 to Astoria, Canada, 24,611 to Australia, 90 to South America, the balance representing local sales.

The newspapers of Lisbon are now publishing articles to the effect that the opposition to England may be carried too far. One journal states that agriculture in Portugal would suffer seriously if the country were deprived of coal and machinery from Great Britain. The Economist declares that some of the hostility of the Portuguese is opposed to a true appreciation of the real interests of their country.

Mary Ryan has been released from Limerick Prison. She was arrested nearly two years ago for taking forcible possession of a farm on the Fitzmaurice estate under the control of the Court of Chancery, and from which she was evicted. The prisoner served one term of twelve months' imprisonment, and was re-arrested. She has now been discharged, owing to ill-health, her second term of twelve months being all but completed.

The annual report of the Dominion Superintendent-general of Indian Affairs, just issued, states that peace, progress, and prosperity are observable among the Indians of the north-west territories, and that they are becoming attached to the soil, which they cultivate with much greater interest than formerly. The opinion is expressed that the time is approaching when the Indians will be practically self-support

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

By LARRY LYNN.

The reports published in the Glasgow papers concerning the recent Association football match between London and Glasgow exhibited, generally speaking, that extreme canniness in the matter of sport for which the footballers of St. Mungo are famous. We in the South have earned the credit, and deservedly so, for taking our thrashings manfully, and we do not grudge Glasgow her victory. Her representatives pulled at the match out of the fire so well and gallantly at the finish that there was no need to magnify the circumstances of their well-merited triumph by vapourings about the weakness of the Glasgow team as compared with that of London. The Scottish writers on football are, with a few exceptions, young, and consequently a trifle inclined to be carried away by their enthusiasm. In so persistently attaching importance to the absence of Macpherson and Kelly from the Glasgow combination, they overlooked the fact that London was minus the services of four of their best players, to wit, Wreford-Brown, F. M. Ingram, Veitch, and Gossell, the non-appearance of the last two especially weakening the home forwards. I have no wish to depreciate the Scottish success, but as their partisans have claimed that all the luck was against them, I think it only right to give expression to the postulate that the first two goals credited to Glasgow would have been disallowed as off-side had the Londoners appealed. I should not have attempted to make excuses for a beaten team had not the visitors, and their partisans endeavoured to work so much more glorification out of this triumph than they are justly entitled to. Surely it was enough to win as they did by three goals to two just before the whistle sounded, and when it is taken into consideration that all of those three goals were obtained within a quarter of an hour before time the Glasgowers had everything to be proud of and nothing to lose in the way of—what shall I say, *kudos*, for want of a better word. Therefore, they could well have afforded to be generous to those they had conquered. They must well know, and are likely to find it out from practical experience, that the London team they defeated did—not as they, the visitors, have since claimed—represent anything resembling Corinthian or International strength, as it is not at all likely that more than four of last Saturday's team will represent England when its full line of battle is arrayed against Scotland at Glasgow in April next. For Glasgow, Walter Arnott was a tower of strength, and McFarlane and Johnstone played superbly, whilst for London the brothers Walters and Moon deserved all the praise that was showered on them. The Glasgowers were a more combined team, and were in fitter condition, and that accounts for their staying better than their opponents.

For their match against Preston North End, which will be played on Saturday next, the 8th inst., the selected Corinthian team is as follows:—R. Moon, P. M. and A. M. Walters, C. Holdsworth, C. Wreford-Brown, H. E. D. Hammond, H. B. Daft, J. A. Lambie, T. Lindley, G. H. Cottrell, and E. S. Currie. On the 22nd inst. the Corinthians play North End and 3rd Lanark. On March 1st London play Birmingham; on the 23rd the final tie of the London Cup takes place. On the 22nd the Corinthians play Queen's Park, and the final tie for the cup is fixed for the 23rd inst., all of these matches being played at the Oval.

Boxing contests on the first day of the week are becoming as popular with lovers of what Mr. Paul St. Léopold would have called "the fancy" as the "Monday Pops" with the world of music. Following after the capital flights between Wallace and Camp on 13th January, and the battle between Nield and Suffolk on 20th January, there was decided last Monday at the South London Gymnasium another exciting glove contest between W. Baxter—one of the well-known fraternal trio of Baxters—and Sst. Gib. champion, and Morgan Crowther, of Newport, Monmouth, who is the holder of the Welsh championship (at rains champions at all weights in these days). The fight was to a finish for £200, and a stubborn contest was witnessed. Mr. B. J. Angle was again referee, and it is a comfort to record that he had no difficulty in keeping the boxers and their partisans from coming to pass that for the future they will be no bisque in handicaps. The Lawn Tennis Association, with its president, Mr. W. Renouf, met in solemn conclave at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, and after the usual business, which I need not refer to—beyond noting that it generally went to prove that the game is rapidly increasing in popularity year by year—the subject of the bisque cropped up. Mr. Colling proposed, and Mr. Williams seconded, the motion that the bisque be abolished, and that handicaps be made by defined strokes given or owed. After some discussion, in which it was generally proved that the bisque was understood by very few persons, and generally disliked, it was put to the vote, with the result that bisques were abolished by 17 votes to 7, this constituting the required two-thirds majority.

The date of the Oxford and Cambridge University boat race has been settled at last, and the rival boat clubs have agreed to split the difference in the matter of days. Oxford proposed March 22nd, and Cambridge, despite the advantages that three extra days would give them new hands with which to row, agreed to the 21st. The race will be rowed on March 26th, at 4.30 p.m.

Mr. Vernon's cricket team continues to make victorious progress in India. On Tuesday last they finished their match against a Bombay Gymkhana team, and beat them by an innings and 74 runs.

MR. HENRY GLADSTONE'S MARRIAGE. A numerous company assembled at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, on Thursday, to witness the marriage of Miss Maud E. Kandal, second daughter of Mr. Stuart Kandal, M.P., to Mr. Henry Neville Gladstone, third son of Mr. Gladstone. Archdeacon Farrar officiated, assisted by the Rev. Stephen Gladstone, rector of Haverhill, and the Rev. E. Talbot, vicar of Leeds. The service was fully choral, commencing with the processional hymn, "Now thank we all our God." Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., attended the bridegroom as best man, and the eight bridesmaids were Miss Daphne Rendel, Miss Clare Rendel, Miss Constance Rendel, Miss Angela Kay-Shuttleworth, Miss Noble, Miss Lushington, Miss Wickham, and the Hon. Sarah Leyte. They were attired in ivory silk poplin gowns, trimmed with ribbon velvet and Irish point lace. Each wore as ornaments a green enamel brooch, forming a true lover's knot, with pearl centre, the gift of the bridegroom, and carried a large bouquet of green foliage with lilies of the valley. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a rich cream gros grain silk, brocaded in a beautiful design of Ceannas Azurias, with draped front of mimosa crepe hoso. The court train was ornamented with orange blossoms. Mrs. Gladstone wore a dress of dark terra cotta velvet, elaborately trimmed with point lace, with bonnet to match. The bride's mother was attired in a handsome costume of dark green Irish poplin and Lyons velvet, with bonnet en suite. The presents numbered about 300.

COUNTY COUNCIL EXTRAVAGANCE. To THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE."

Sir.—I wonder if your splendid article on the "Palace of Progress" will at last rouse the people against the monstrous extravagance of the L.C.C. The Daily Telegraph has sent forth its advocacy of spending more of the ratepayers' money in building a second pandemonium of political faddists, as though the nation had not done enough in building St. Stephen's. With these two monstrous dragons of Wantley, the L.C.C., and the School Board, heaven alone knows to what length they will go. Cannot the ratepayers find some means of protesting? Are they content to let their undoubted complaints remain unheard—and so drag on their shoulders further scandalous burdens of increased taxation?—Yours, &c.,

Mr. Haden Corser, the Dalston magistrate, on Thursday, asked for the assistance of the press in giving publicity to the fact that the family of the man, John Price, who was sentenced to three months' hard labour for embezzlement, were in considerable distress. The case was one of great hardship on the family, and he (the magistrate) found himself unable to relieve them to the extent he desired through want of funds. He thus appealed to the benevolent public to assist the court.

Just as everybody was lamenting the fact that the Pelican Club inquiry into the disgraceful proceedings connected with the Smith-Slavin affair at Bruges had ended in snare or death a natural death, an agreeable announcement comes to hand which tells us that, if the Pelicans were asleep, they had adopted the method of the fox, who always slept with one eye open. On Thursday, it appears, a committee of the Pelican Club met to discuss the matter. The Marquis of Queensberry, who throughout this matter has acted like a thorough sportsman, made a statement of fresh facts, and subsequently it was unanimously resolved that Mr. George Alexander Baird, better known as Mr. Abington, should be called upon to resign his membership of the Pelican Club. Those people to whom a nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse will draw their own conclusions from this action of the Pelicans.

To DARKEN GRAY HAIR.—Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer is the easiest, best, and cheapest Large Bottles.

Island of Everywhere.—(Advt.)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Though every care will be taken to ensure the conveyance of replies, the editor cannot accept responsibility for lost or damaged letters. Questions requiring an answer by the same week will be answered on the following morning at latest. Those subsequently received will be answered the following week. Rejected MS., not accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope or wrapper, will be destroyed. The amount to be paid for a question must be on market, the amount being either specified or left to the editor to fix. All questions should be headed "Legal," "Household," "Miscellaneous," or otherwise, in accordance with their special character, in order to facilitate classification.

LEGAL.

RETRY.—1. Not unless you occupied other rooms than those you hired. 2. As he has given you notice, you must vacate.

SILVIO.—1. It depends upon the local assessment. 2. No; only the income-tax is compulsory. 3. E. J. W.—He can collect it.

KENT'S SCAFFOLD.—It can be registered in any name. 2. No; it must be registered in the name of the owner.

EDWARD.—1. Quite legal. 2. Yes. 3. No; it would be better to have it registered in the name of the husband.

DESMONDO.—1. Quite legal. 2. Yes. 3. No; it would be better to have it registered in the name of the husband.

ROBERTS.—We do not give opinions on wills. For simplicity you can get a printed form of one which would exactly suit your purpose.

HAROLD.—You had better explain the circumstances to the solicitor.

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"IN THE SWIM."
BY A CITY SHARK.

Last week I ventured to discern "something of a more wholesome tone in the leading departments." My eyes did not deceive me; the improvement has continued ever since, with only one or two checks. It should not be too readily assumed, nevertheless, that all danger of a retrograde movement is at an end. The money market still shows considerable uneasiness, and although it has been strengthened for the moment by a large supply of gold from St. Petersburg, a great deal more will be required to give it permanent stability. Certain financial critics theorise that the only choice is between immediately advancing the rate of discount to 7 per cent., or postponing the process to the autumn. I do not quite understand the somewhat hazy reasoning by which the present situation is sought to be supported. But, assuming the case to be as represented, I certainly prefer the postponement, on the broad ground that there is little profit in anticipating evils. English railroads have been a fair market almost throughout the week owing to the investing public having come to their rescue, tempted by the lower prices. Even if traffic fell away to a considerable extent, the ordinary shares in the dividend-paying line would yield a higher rate of interest than Consols, with quite good security for capital. My present fancy inclines toward Metropolitan and Great Eastern, both of which are quoted below their intrinsic worth. It would not surprise me at all to see the pair reach par before the end of the current year. Of course, we do not go back on my Great Western line, my opinion remaining unchanged that no line in the kingdom has a more promising future. That it will get a share—probably a considerable share—of the Transatlantic passenger traffic admits of no question. As soon as all the arrangements are completed, and granting equal speed across the Atlantic, the Milford Haven route from New York to London will save at least twelve hours compared with the Queenstown route. Turning to American rails, I note with much inward satisfaction the remarkable improvement in Louisville shares. My readers will scarcely need to be reminded how often I recommended these securities to their notice, never wavering in my opinion that these were the best things on offer in the Yankee department. Now, however, that they have jumped up so largely, buying would be extremely risky ; were I a holder, I should be more inclined to sell out than increase my holding. For, although Wall-street has put on a most cheerful countenance and is buying largely, I have my doubts whether this change of mood be anything more than a bait to tempt John Bull into the American whirlpool. For my own part, I abjure the Yank and all his doings ; he may stink in my own juice for all I care.

SNOWED UP FOR FOURTEEN DAYS.
Three theatrical companies have been snowed up on the Central Pacific Railway during the recent storms. The Howard Variety Company, which is recruited entirely from Europe, and largely from England, occupied one car for fourteen days. Their sufferings were terrible. The supply of food and fuel fell short, and the cold was intense. The officials were powerless to help them.

THE DEPTFORD MURDER.

Eleanor Sarah Jacobs, 24, single, of Payne-street, Deptford, was charged, at the Greenwich Police Court, on remand, with the wilful murder of her illegitimate child, Emily Louise Jacobs, aged 4 years.—Mr. Angus Lewis attended for the Public Prosecutor, and in his opening remarks said on the 21st January the prisoner murdered her child by first attempting to strangle it, and then beating out its brains with a poker. There did not appear to have been any motive for the crime, and the state of the prisoner's mind at the time would have to be inquired into, but it would not be necessary to produce that evidence at that court. He then called Emily Jacobs, the mother of the prisoner, who stated that on the morning of the murder the prisoner came into her room, and said she had murdered little Emily. Witness called in her son, Harry, and went for a doctor. Four years and a half ago the prisoner was out of her mind, and was for six weeks an inmate of Greenwich Union Infirmary.—Dr. Duff, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, said the front half of the skull was shattered to fragments, there being about twenty-five pieces. A blunt instrument, such as the poker produced, could cause the injury. The immediate cause of death was injury to the head after partial strangulation.—Mr. Kennedy told the prisoner she would be committed for trial at the next session of the Central Criminal Court, and asked her if she wished to say anything.—The prisoner replied, "I done it."—A young man in the body of the court asked for permission to see the prisoner, which was granted. Inspector Bunting saying the young man and the prisoner had been engaged to be married.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.
A deputation, representing the Association of Members of the Royal College of Surgeons, waited upon the Earl of Dunraven on Thursday with the object of securing his lordship's consent to introduce a bill into the House of Lords giving the members the right to elect the governing body. The deputation was introduced to his lordship by Dr. Danford Thomas. He and other members explained both the ancient position and powers of the surgeons' guild or corporation, and its modern developments. Under the ancient charter the members of the guild assembled in annual public meeting, and the whole body of members were entitled to, and did, actually take part in the government of the body. In course of years the governing power became absorbed in the council of the college, and has been for a very considerable period exercised by this council only. But in 1834 there was an outbreak among the members, and from that time to the present an organised effort has been going on with the object of securing for the members a re-introduction of their right of controlling the affairs of the college. The number of members of the college was nominally between 16,000 and 17,000, but really about 12,000, and contributing about £20,000 a year to the funds, while the fellows only numbered about 1,000, and paid to the funds no more than about £2,000 a year.—His lordship promised his full consideration.

SUNDAY MUSIC AT WORTHING.
The vexed question of providing music on Sunday formed the chief subject for discussion at the annual meeting of the Worthing Pier Company on Thursday. A motion was submitted expressing disapproval of the action of the directors in holding concerts on the pier on Sunday evenings. An amendment was submitted in the following terms :—"That this meeting, understanding that the music on the pier on Sunday evenings is confined to sacred music, and to a time not clashing with the ordinary hours of divine worship, does not desire to interfere with the action of the directors."—This amendment was declared carried amid loud applause, by 51 votes to 10, the numbers, by means of proxies, being brought up to 50 and 11 respectively. Owing to an informality, a batch of forty-two proxies in support of the vote of disapproval was rejected.

THE CHIEF RABBI'S LITTLE JOKE.
The following is one of the many jokes attributed to the late Dr. Adler :—A beggar who had trespassed once too often on the kind-hearted rabbi's generosity, threatened that unless he could find further assistance he would go to the Society for the Conversion of the Jews and become a Christian. Dr. Adler, a minded obdurate, and dismissed him, saying that he hoped he would make a better Christian than Jew. The beggar left the office, but was summoned back by the chief rabbi's beadle. He returned, jubilantly expecting to make terms with the "Rao." The latter, however, calmly said, "I am afraid if you walk to the society's office you will have time to change your mind. I'll send you there in a cab." The beggar made himself scarce.

THE SHAH AND THE BIBLE.
The report of the riot in Teheran because the Shah is said to have accepted a translation of the Bible from Sir Drummond Wolff is, says a correspondent, not believed by some of those who were attached to his Majesty during his visit to London and are well acquainted with his empire. The translation is said to be mainly the work of the Rev. Dr. Bruce, who has represented the Church Missionary Society at Isfahan for about twenty-five years. Any interference with the national religion is strictly prohibited in Persia. It is the only Mahomedan country in which the chief mosques are never entered by Christians on any pretence or by any authority, and it is said that the proselytising of the Shah would not enter the heads even of a mob as a possibility. Dr. Bruce knows the Persians well, and confines his ministrations chiefly to the Armenians living in the suburbs of Isfahan.

NOTICE.
To avoid loss of time and inconvenience, all communications on business matters should be addressed to the MANAGER, and not to the EDITOR.

PERSONAL.

GENEVIEVE.—Non sans, impossible de vivre plus long temps sans avoir de tes nouvelles. De grâce réponds de suite à ton adorable dessépere.

LATE of Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.—**WILLIAM JAGGER**, is requested to be informed by his BROTHER, E. R. Jagger, of H.M.S. *Lion*, Constantinople, who will be there that is necessary.

\$100,000,000, UNCLAIMED.—A genuine register of over 50,000 persons advertised for in *ad. post free*. This trifling outlay may lead to a fortune.—ADAMS and CO., 55, and 56, Chancery-lane, London.

FROM "THE BIG ALMOND" TO LITTLE K. Darling, your unkink at end.—Stand by the girl of January has driven me to despair. Up to now I know that I am forever alone, but I am not alone, & that you will meet me again.—I shall resign and leave the country. It was all through the meddling widow.

MATRIMONY-GENTLEMAN, 32, of good social position, desires to correspond with a lady, aged 25 and 33, with a view to matrimony; money is no object. The lady must be well educated, of good family and domestic character, including a state wage.—Apply, Mrs. W. E. M. Lomenech, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MATRIMONY-YOUNG WIDOW, 27, wishes correspondence with honourable gentlemen, aged 35 and 45, who are looking for a wife to good husband ; one only a loving heart to offer. Would not object to reside abroad or if gentleman were elderly.—Letters only, Graham, New-room, 4, Lodge Circus Buildings, City.

SPECIAL PREPAID RATES.
ADVERTISEMENTS RELATING TO
Situations Wanted or Vacant,
Houses or Apartments to Let or Wanted,
Businesses, &c., or Articles for Sale,
Lost or Found, &c., &c.

SPECIAL LOW RATE OF 1s. FOR 16 WORDS
AND
6d. PER LINE, OR EIGHT WORDS, AFTER.
These rates apply only to private or individual
announcements, and are not intended for advertisements
of the above descriptions when sent by the
advertiser in his trade or professional character.
Prepayment is indispensable.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

GENERAL SERVANT, 18, used to housework, fond of children, *ad. post reference, 2s. weekly*.—Louise S., Hetherington's, 109, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 30, good plain cooking, 9 months' character, wages 21s.—Mrs. Hetherington's, Myddleton Hall, Upper-street, Islington, N.

GENERAL SERVANT, 18, 12 months' character, *ad. post*, willing, wages 21s.—Mrs. Hetherington's, Myddleton Hall, Upper-street, Islington, N.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 21, very tall, neat, clean, good plain cook, respectable, and nervous character, wages 21s.—Minnie, Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

NURSEMAID or UNDER-NURSE, age 16, tall, respectable, quiet, fond of children, good character, wages 25s.—Amy, Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 21, neat, 10 months' character, wages 21s.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Bayswater.

CITCHENMAID, age 16, willing and obliging, under good direction, 6 months' character.—Annie, Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18, country girl, plain cooking, willing and obliging, not been out before, wages 21s.—Esther, Hetherington's, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 20, understands plain cooking, neat and quick, 1 year and 10 months' character, wages 21s.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Bayswater.

COOK and GENERAL SERVANT, age 21, tall, neat girl, 8 months' personal character, wages 21s.—W. Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Bayswater.

YOUNG GENERAL SERVANT or HOUSEMAID, age 16, very willing girl, fond of children and used to housework. 3 months and 12 months' character, wages 21s.—Amy, Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18, strong, willing girl, little experience, fond of cooking, fond of children, 10 months' character, wages 21s.—Apply, Florence, Hetherington's, 328, Mile-end-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18, tall, looks older, cooking superintendent, little washing, fond of children, 9 months' character, wages 21s.—Apply, Clara W., Hobbs, 28, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 16, used to children, fond of children, wages 21s.—Hester, Hetherington's, 170, Queen's-road, Peckham.

WANTED, A NURSE GIRL, to make herself generally useful, aged about 16 years.—Apply personally, at 16, St. Mary's-terrace, Paddington, W.

COOK wanted, £16 to £22, HOUSE and PARLOURMAID.

A14 to £20, good general maids do small house, easy place, no washing.—Mrs. Pipe, 50, Edgware-road, Hyde Park.

GENERAL SERVANTS wanted, age 14 to 40, several good situations in small families now vacant, wages £12 to £20.—Apply to F. W. Hetherington, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

GENERAL SERVANTS wanted, age 18 to 25, private and business houses, good, comfortable situations, £12 to £18.—Apply or write to Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

PLAIN COOK wanted, age 20 to 30, 4 families, no children, household work, wages £12 to £20.—Apply, Mrs. A. Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

PLAIN COOKS are to 32, able to make soups, entrees, &c., other servants kept, wages £20.—Apply or write to Hetherington's 216, Edgware-road.

GENERAL SERVANTS wanted, age 18 to 25, private and business houses, good, comfortable situations, £12 to £18.—Apply or write to Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

PLAIN COOK wanted, age 20 to 30, 4 families, no children, household work, wages £12 to £20.—Apply, Mrs. A. Hetherington's, 216, Edgware-road.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 25 to 30, medium family, not much cooking, no washing, wages 21s to £20.—Mrs. P. Hetherington's, Myddleton Hall, Upper-street, Islington, N.

GENERAL SERVANT, age 25 to 40, for a public-house, comfortable home, wages 21s.—Mrs. A. Hetherington's, Myddleton Hall, Upper-street, Islington, N.

YOUNG GIRL wanted, to take charge of 1 child and assist in light house and needlework, good place, wages £12 or £14.—Apply, Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

YOUNG PERSONS wanted, to take charge of 1 child and assist in light house and needlework, good place, wages £12 or £14.—Apply, Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

ONE PERSON wanted, every town, to distribute circulars, £1 per week.—Address, WILLIAM MARCHE, 10, Newgate-street.

RESPECTABLE GIRL, 15 or 16, to assist mistress generally, clean, active, character required.—Apply or write to old-established Office, BLUETIA, above.

SITUATIONS VACANT.—(CONTINUED.)

GENERAL SERVANT, age 18, small family, wages £18.—Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 110, Victoria-street, Bayswater.

HOUSEMAID wanted, age from 17 to 25, good place, £16 to £20.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 62, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 18 to 25, mistress intended to come to England.—Apply, Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 170, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 20 to 40, family, plain cooking, wages £18.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 170, Victoria-street, Bayswater.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age under 30, in family, no washing, wages £18.—Mrs. M. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age about 25, for a lady, £18.—Mrs. H. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

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THE LABOUR DISPUTES. The Effects of the Late Dock Strike.

Mr. C. M. Nowwood presided at the Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday over the ordinary general meeting of the London and St. Katharine Docks Company, and, referring to the recent dock strike, he said, "that had it not been for the disorganisation of trade caused by the strike, the dock statistics for the past year, as compared with 1888, would have shown an increase. 4,459,046 tons of shipping from foreign ports entered all the docks of London, being a decrease of 33,039 tons. Of laden ships entering the docks under the management of the joint committee, the tonnage had been 2,888,281, a decrease of 56,551 tons; but in respect to goods there was an increase of 1,512 tons in imports and 8,349 tons in the exports which passed over the quays. Stocks in their warehouses on the 31st of December were 286,336 tons, as compared with 302,623 tons in '88. He was of opinion that the diversion of the shipping from the docks of London to other ports consequent upon the strike, would account for the decrease of 33,745 tons of shipping from foreign ports into all the docks of London in the last half-year of 1889. Merchants in various trades were known to have changed the destination of cargoes to various out ports. As respects the large steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company and other lines habitually using their docks, no fewer than ten, of the aggregate of 23,045 tons, were sent to Southampton. The joint committee thus lost the dues on those ships. It was disposed to estimate the money loss to the joint committee arising from the extra expenditure in labour caused by the strike at £40,000, and this did not include the loss owing to the diversion of trade from their docks. If the experience of the past three months was to be a guide for the future, he feared that £150,000 per annum would not cover their enhanced expenditure on labour. This was a very serious outlook for the trade of the port.

The Dockers and their Agreement.

The directors had frankly accepted the position into which they were forced, and had loyally tried to carry out the terms of the agreement, but he regretted to say the result had been most unsatisfactory. Not a week, scarcely a day, had passed without a partial strike or other complication at some one or other of the docks or warehouses, often on the most frivolous pretences; and the latest move of the men was to free themselves of that portion of the agreement which distinctly provided for no pay for meal times. The union men had persistently refused to work with the so-called "blacklegs," and their foremen and clerks had been compelled to form a union. The result of all this was, that in respect to the labour necessary to conduct their business, the directors as well as the men had been deprived of the free and open market which formerly existed, and were now at the mercy of the leaders of the union, who had virtually become the controllers and managers of the shipping business of the port, in too many cases they had not had as much labour rendered for the 6d. per working hour as they formerly had for 5d.

A State of Things which Cannot Last.

He asserted that the present state of things could not continue without permanently injuring the trade of the port, and unless there was a decided change in the conduct of the men and their leaders, the time might not be far distant when the directors and their colleagues on the joint committee must regain their control over the management of their affairs, whatever might be the course of the struggle. (Applause.) If the authorities wanted to step in and purchase their docks and make a public trust of them, they would not oppose them if a fair price was offered. (Hear, hear.) But they had not heard lately much of such a movement, even with the Lord Mayor at its head, since the recent difficulties had been realised.—Mr. Hubbard seconded the motion.—A discussion followed, and the report was adopted. Mr. F. Pook and Mr. W. Leonard Darke were elected directors in place of Messrs. Gassiot and Sandeman, who retired.

Serious Rioting at Birmingham.

A serious disturbance by strikers occurred at Birmingham on Wednesday. About 150 tube-drawers struck work at Smethwick in the morning, and marched into Birmingham with the object of gaining the support of the tube-drawers there. At Messrs. Vivian's factory in Icknield Port-road the men refused to join the strikers, who left for other works, about fifty youths joining them. In the afternoon the men returned to Messrs. Vivian's works, and found the gates closed against them and the establishment guarded by police. The strikers shouted, "Fetch 'em out; they shan't work; break the gates open," and in a short while a rush was made on the gates, which, however, were much too stout to yield. This spirit of violence gradually gained ground, and the constables eventually deemed it discreet to get reinforcements. When the gates were opened to allow of a wagon of metal to enter, the mob made another rush, but were driven back by the police. Incensed at this, stones were thrown at the constables, and while this was going on eight or nine other police officers arrived on the scene, and were at once attacked by the crowd, who kicked and struck them. Two of the ring-leaders, who had injured constables were seized, hurried into a cart, and driven to the lock-up. For some time the police had to combat with the riotous strikers, and all more or less were badly kicked. Police-constable Webb was within an inch or two of being brained with a large granite pavement stone, which was hurled at his head. It just missed, and, striking the door, made a deep dent. At length Messrs. Vivian's men turned out to prevent further hostilities, but they resumed work the next morning. Messrs. Vivian's place indicates the nature of the encounter. Hundreds of stones were strewn about the pavement, and the gates were covered with dents made by the stones hurled at the police. About a dozen constables were more or less injured.

Convicted for Intimidation.
Frederick Butterfield, 34, labourer, was charged at the Lambeth Police Court on Friday, on a warrant, for intimidation of Henry Cooper and his wife, contrary to the Conspiracy Act, 1875. The case was one of much importance, especially as bearing upon the strikes. Mr. Washington appeared to prosecute for the South Metropolitan Gas Company; and Mr. W. H. Armstrong defended. From the statement of Mr. Washington, borne out by evidence, it appeared that the complainant had, for over 28 years been in the service of the South Metropolitan Gas Company. He had chosen to remain at work when others went out on strike. This had caused a deal of ill-feeling against him, especially as he had initiated the new hands in the work. The prisoner was engaged at the Equitable Gas Works, and lived near the complainant. On Saturday, January 18th, and following days the prisoner, it was stated, had called him a "blackleg," at the same time using foul language, and declared the complainant should die before Friday. The complainant declared that he went in fear owing to such conduct. He had no ill-feeling against the prisoner, but wanted to be protected.

Mr. Partridge, at considerable length reviewed the whole of the facts, and in conclusion said he was satisfied the case had been proved. The punishment was very stringent under the Act, and had prisoner committed violence he should have sentenced him to imprisonment for the full term of three months. No man had a right to dictate to a workman as to whom he should work. It was a free country, and the workman had a right to work for whom he chose. It was clear there was over these strikes a certain organisation to intimidate and annoy men who, like the complainant, chose to remain in his employment. Under all the circumstances, he

ordered the prisoner to pay a fine of £20, or in default two months' imprisonment.

East-end Tailors—Another Strike Threatened.

In an interview on Friday with Mr. Lewis Lyons, the leader of the late tailors' strike, a reporter was informed that the trade was in a state of upheaval. The small masters had begun to go back to the old system, and this had caused a great amount of friction between masters and men. Both employers and workmen recognised the gravity of the situation, and both were holding meetings almost every night. Mr. Lyons said he was in communication with the main leaders in various provincial towns; and Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, and other large centres had promised their aid should another strike take place. Communications had also been received from Victoria, Australia, and Continental centres. Mr. Lyons added that the men were determined to avert the sweater, and would eventually go in for the eight hours' day movement. The women had a secret union, and would strike with the men. They had plenty of funds, and Mr. Lyons declared himself confident of winning.

The Strike at Hay's Wharf.

A meeting of the strikers at Hay's Wharf was held on Friday, and was addressed by Mr. Tom Mann. He laid great stress upon the point that the issue to a great extent depended upon the men being able to prevent the delivery of tea. In this they required the assistance of the carriers. He admitted that up to the present they had not been so successful as they might have been, but said it had now been arranged for the carriers to receive orders direct from their respective lodges not to handle any goods for Hay's Wharf, and on Monday they would be conspicuous by their absence. The men at Cutler-street tea warehouse resumed work on Friday morning, the negotiations between the proprietors and the men having terminated, with the result that the men are not to be asked to do any co-operation or attend to the loading of tea intended for Hay's Wharf.

Conflict in Bohemia.

A Vienna correspondent telegraphs details of a serious riot amongst the glass-workers in the district of Gablonz, Bohemia, the centre of the glass trade. Five hundred of the men attacked some of the glass-cutting mills at Neudorf and Wiesenthal, and broke up the machinery. There were severe conflicts between the police and the rioters, of whom two were killed and several wounded. The military force stationed at Reichenberg was despatched to the scene of action.

THE BURGLARY SEASON IN LONDON.

A young man, named William John Marlow, was charged at the Wandsworth Police Court, on Thursday, on his own confession, with burglariously entering 20, Mayoule-road, Battersea, and stealing property of the value of £10.

Three persons have already been committed for trial for alleged participation in the burglary, including a woman, named Annie Cunningham, who

was stopped with a clock stolen from the house in her possession. When before the magistrate she stated the clock was given to her.—Sergeant 52 V deposed that he was in charge of Battersea Police Station on Wednesday evening, when the prisoner came in and stated that he wished to give himself up for committing a burglary at 20, Mayoule road. "I don't think job," he said, "and no one was with me." He also stated that he would not have given himself up but he read in the Evening Standard that Mrs. Marlow, who had brought him up from a child, and her son were committed for trial. He could not see innocent people suffer for him.—Sergeant Thorley said that the prisoner also admitted to him having broken into the house and stolen two clocks, two tablecloths, an overcoat, and a dress. He asked him if he knew Annie Cunningham. He replied, "Yes; I knew she was charged with being in the possession of a clock. I saw the copper coming, and I put the clock in the hook and done a guy." (Laughter.)—Mr. De Rutzen inquired if a man was not lying dead in the house at the time, and Sergeant Thorley answered in the affirmative.—Miss Pettit, who was formerly housekeeper to the deceased, was called to prove missing the various articles from the house. The prisoner reminded the witness where the things were, and Mr. De Rutzen remarked that he appeared to know more about the matter than she did.—Prisoner: Of course I do. Two people were here yesterday morning, and they know no more about it than that table. I should not be here if it was not for that.—Police-constable 377 V said that at the time he arrested the woman Cunningham he saw two men running away. He was sure the prisoner was not one of them. The prisoner here addressed the constable in a loud tone of voice, called him a monkey, and told him not to tell such lies. The magistrate asked the prisoner if he wished to say anything in defence, and he answered, "No; I'll do it up the road," meaning at the trial.—He was committed to take his trial accordingly.—George Stevens, 21, and George Smith, 20, were charged at the Lambeth Police Court on Thursday, with attempting to break and enter No. 139, Westminster Bridge-road, with intent to steal therein.—Police-constable 142 L stated that whilst on duty shortly after two o'clock in the morning in the Westminster Bridge-road, he saw the prisoners on the opposite side of the way, close to the shop door of Anderson's Boot Manufacturing company. He watched them, as their conduct was very suspicious. He saw one stop down behind the other, and shortly afterwards witness crossed over and asked what they were doing. They made some reply, but he once ran off. He managed to catch Smith, but Stevens ran on, when witness blew his whistle.—Police-constable 138 L said he was on duty at Kennington-road Police Station, and heard a policeman's whistle and cries of "Stop him." He went into the road, and there saw the prisoner Stevens running as fast as he could. Witness gave chase and caught Stevens, who said, "All right, I don't think it's any use going further." Inspector Sennett, 1, Division, said he had examined the premises and found that a window panel had been partly cut away. On the prisoner was a skeleton key, an iron punch, and a piece of rag.—The prisoners, who admitted misdemeanor defence, were committed to take their trial for the attempted burglary.—John Witham, 21, was charged at the Lambeth Police Court on Friday with burglariously breaking and entering the shop of William Haydon, butcher, Brixton-road, and stealing therein a piece of beef, value £1 13s.—Police-constable 288 V stated that early in the morning, whilst on duty, he tried the windows of the prosecutor's shop, and found all secure. He afterwards examined the back premises, and in a few moments he was satisfied the shop was free from the alarm. They all ran off, the prisoner throwing away a large piece of meat. Witness was sent in pursuit, and ultimately came up with the prisoner, who pretended to be asleep, in a cart. The other men escaped. Witness afterwards found that an entry had been obtained by forcing the shop window.—Mr. Partridge committed the prisoner to take his trial at the Central Criminal Court.

A LION HUNT.

The inhabitants of Goldberg, in Lower Silesia, went lion-hunting the other day. Two lions, which had probably escaped from a travelling menagerie, were seen in a small wood near the town. The alarm was given, and every one who could lay hands on a weapon at once got turned out. A policeman named Byllius, who was a tolerably good rifleman, succeeded in getting a shot at one of the lions, and must have either killed it or wounded it severely, for the guards, who were posted round the wood to watch, saw one lion emerge shortly after the shot was fired, and take its way towards Helmsdorf. The other must still be in the wood, but whether dead or dying, no one ventured in to see.

THE BONA FIDE TRAVELLER QUESTION.

Important Point.

The landlord of the Hornsey Wood Tavern, near Finsbury Park, appeared to an adjourned summons, at Dalston Police Court on Thursday, for selling beer during prohibited hours.—Inspector Walter Lee, of the N Division, said the Hornsey Wood Tavern was one of those houses outside the radius where people were able to travel three miles and legally get intoxicating liquors on a Sunday morning. On Sunday, the 12th January, witness saw Mr. M'Linnon, whom he knew to live in Stoke Newington, enter the Hornsey Wood Tavern, and the person was summoned, and admitting that he had misled the doorman, by saying he was a bona fide traveller, was fined 20s. The question now arose as to the distance between the Angel at Islington and the Hornsey Wood Tavern, because M'Linnon told the doorman that he had come from the Angel, and whilst Inspector Lee said "the nearest" route was only two and a half miles, Mr. Fox contended that the usual route via Upper Street, Islington, Holloway-road, and Seven Sisters-road, was over the three miles.

The defendant said he had given his doorman instructions to ask everybody coming on a Sunday to pay the required three miles, and whether they slept at the place they said they came from.—Mr. M'Linnon admitted that he was not asked if he slept at the Angel, where he said he came from, and the doorman was not certain whether he asked the question or not.—The magistrate, whilst admitting that the defendant had taken all reasonable precautions and had a well-conducted house, said he was responsible for the acts of his servant, and a fine of 2s was inflicted, with leave to appeal.

AN IND STREET POSTMAN.

At the Guildhall Police Court, William Weke, 30, letter-carrier, was charged with being drunk and incapable while in charge of her Majesty's letters.—Sergeant Perry said that he was on Snow Hill on the previous evening, when he saw the prisoner, with his mail bag on his shoulder, leaning against a wall, incapable drunk. Witness took him in custody.—An inspector from the General Post Office said that the prisoner had been a letter-carrier for fourteen years, and had always borne a good character. This matter would be brought before the Post Office authorities, who would take proceedings independently. When the letters were given to the defendant he was perfectly sober, or appeared to be so, otherwise the letters would not have been given to him.—Defendant said that all the drink he had was before he was out on duty, and that it took effect when he was out.—The alderman observed that while he was out, the alehouse was so full that he could not get a seat.

THE FAST NET ROCK LIGHTKEEPER.
A flag of distress was observed flying from the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse on Wednesday and Thursday. The pilot boat, Self Reliance, again proceeded outwards towards the rock, and it has since transpired that the supply of oil is almost exhausted—a matter which may prove of serious import to transatlantic liners and navigators generally. It is feared that, under present circumstances, there will be great difficulty in landing oil on the rock. The lightkeeper, Foster, who was one of the sufferers from privation during the recent storm, was brought ashore on Thursday very ill. Many deep fissures have been caused in the rock by the violence of the sea during the late storms, and fears are entertained that a portion of the rock may fall down.

THE LANGTON COLLIERY DISASTER.

The adjourned inquiry into the causes of the disaster at Massfield Colliery, Langton, whereby sixty-four lives were lost in October last, was resumed and concluded on Thursday.—Mr. Atkins, the Government inspector of mines for the district, who presented his report, stated that the disaster originated in the Cockhead seam, and traversed the entire length of that seam. In his opinion the putting in of stopping on the night of the explosion, which closed the main air way to Cockhead seam, had rendered extremely dangerous places which otherwise would all have been safe. He regarded it as a serious error on the part of the manager to have put this stopping in without having previously withdrawn the men. The ventilation of the mine was capable of great improvement, whilst there was insufficient official supervision. He would not say it was culpable negligence on the part of the manager not to have withdrawn the men, but he adhered to his original statement that it was a grave error.—The coroner, in his summing-up, said it was clear that they were not in a position to discover the cause of the explosion or the spot at which it originated.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD AND FREE EDUCATION.

At a meeting of the London School Board on Thursday, the Rev. J. R. Dugle presiding, the debate was resumed on the following motion of Mrs. Beasant: "That the board petition Parliament to enact that all board schools be thrown open free from all charge." The Rev. S. Headlam seconded the motion.—Mr. Lucretius moved as an amendment: "That, in the opinion of this board, admission to all schools in receipt of grants from the State should be free; and that the Statistical Committee be instructed to prepare and submit to the board a petition to Parliament, on aiming a prayer in favour of such proposition." He contended that the education of the people of this country would be better carried out if the schools were free.—Mrs. Ashton Dilke, in seconding the amendment, contended that the subject was one of the greatest importance that had yet been before the board. Free education would undoubtedly improve the school attendance, and would sweep away at one stroke an enormous amount of work that was now being done by the teachers and visitors in regard to bringing out return tables and collecting fees.—The Rev. J. Coxhead declared that if a system of free education were put in force they would have to throw over the efficient managers of voluntary schools.—The Hon. L. Stanley thought that very few practical people would doubt, in view of the recent utterances of Lord Salisbury, that we should have free schools. He felt sure that a system of free education was coming, but a national representative body must be appointed to manage it. The Statistical Committee should be instructed to plead guilty, and she was fined 2s, and ordered to pay the costs.—George Thompson, of Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, said that on the night of January the 23rd he was in the George and Dragon public-house, Greek-street, Soho, when Mrs. Gwynne came in with a roll of large bags in her hand, and gave one to the landlord, with the request that he would put it in his window. Having read it the landlord handed it back to her, and declined to exhibit it. He himself read it, and the bill produced was similar.—The bill, which Mr. Fonblanche read, was as follows:—"The Helvetia Hotel, Old Compton-street. A grand smoking concert will take place on Friday, January 31st, 1890, for the benefit of Mrs. Emma Gwynne, of Moor-street, Soho, to defray the expenses of an appeal against the decision of the magistrate at Marlborough-street Police Court, on an unbound charge brought against her on January 10th, through the instigation of Mr. Brown, rag and bone merchant, of Moor-street, Soho, and of which Mrs. Gwynne is entirely innocent. A grand array of talent will appear. Tickets, 6d. and £1 each."—Mr. Brown informed the magistrate that the summons had been served on him in his window. He did not want to act vindictively, but if she undertook to apologise and to give up all the copies of the bill he would be satisfied.—Mr. Newton said that he would adjourn the case for a fortnight, and if at the end of that time Mr. Brown had received a proper written apology, he would consider what costs she would be called upon to pay.—Mr. Fonblanche: I should particularly like to have all the copies of the bill in the defendant's possession.—Mr. Abrahams: Very well.—They were then handed over to Mr. Fonblanche.

A CHILD'S ADVENTURE.

At the Thames Police Court, Annie Saunderson, 31, described as a barmaid, of 31, Commercial-road, Whitechapel, was charged with stealing Bertie Manning, aged 5 years, from the lawful custody of his father. She was further charged with stealing a pair of boots and a basket, the property of the boy's father.—The child was sent by his mother on an errand on Monday, and did not return.—Constable Sanders, 831 City, said that on the previous afternoon he saw the little boy lying asleep on one of the benches at Fenchurch-street Railway Station with no boots on. On being questioned, he said the prisoner took him away, and had beat him to make him call her mother. Witness took the child to Seething-lane Police Station, and afterwards saw the accused in custody.—Constable Cole, 765 City, deposed that he saw the prisoner looking for the child at Fenchurch-street Railway Station. He heard her say to a porter, "I have lost a little boy." The porter told her the boy had been taken away. The accused told witness she was the mother. The boots were found in her basket. She also had a bottle of gin.—Mr. Shell dealt with the case of stealing the boots, and sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour, and told her if ever she were brought there again on a similar charge she would be committed for trial.

A HUSBAND AT FOURTEEN.

At the Banger Petty Sessions a lad named Hogan was summoned for drunkenness. The defendant pleaded that he was on his honeymoon. His youthful appearance attracted the notice of Mr. Harry Clegg, who interrogated him as to his age as a husband. "He" defendant replied that he was fourteen years of age.—Mr. Clegg: Fourteen. And how old is your wife?—The Defendant: Sixteen.—Mr. Clegg: Did your father know of your age?—Yes.—Mr. Clegg: Then why didn't he stop your marriage? It is something disgraceful.—The Defendant: He didn't stop our marriage because there were reasons why he couldn't.—A fine of £1 and costs was imposed.

LORD WOLSELEY ON ARMY UNIFORMS.

Lord Wolseley contributes an article to "Harper's" on "Army Reforms," and regarding soldiers' uniforms he writes:—"We dress our sailors for the work they have to do, but we still cling to a theatrical style of garments for the soldier. There are, however, some difficulties attached to this question of dress in an Army raised as ours is, on a system of voluntary enlistment. We must make the soldiers' clothing acceptable to the men who have to wear it, and, strange to say, they like very tightly-fitting coats and trousers to swagger about in with their swab-chests. They like those ridiculous forage caps stuck on the side of their heads, and which are no protection from either sun or rain. The change hoped for generally is that we should have two costumes—one for active service and field manoeuvres, of the colour we use in India—it is a light tawny, resembling that of the hare, and fitting very easily everywhere, especially about the throat, the other scarlet, and very smart, and ornamented with braids and buttons, as at present, to satisfy the young soldier and his 'Mary Anne.' In all our recent little wars we have used a special dress made for the occasion, and what we now want is to make that special dress the undress uniform of the Army. Is there one outside a lunatic asylum who would go on a walking tour, or shoot in the backwoods or the prairies, dressed and dressed as the British soldier is?" This applies to all ranks, for I confess to a feeling that the dressed-up monkey on a barrel organ wears a strong resemblance to the British general in his meaningless cocked hat and feathers of the last century, and in his very expensive coat, besmeared both before and behind with gold-lace.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT FARNHAM.

On Thursday evening a distressing fatality occurred on the new main sewer works at Chorley. John Jones was engaged removing timber from a deep cutting, when the sides fell in, and he was buried alive. A fellow-workman was also partially buried, but he managed to crawl out.

A CHARGE OF INTIMIDATION.

At a Crimes Act Court at Tipton on Friday, a cattle dealer named Michael Ryan was sentenced to